

LONDON- WEST MIDLANDS ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT

Volume 5 | Technical Appendices

CFAg | Central Chilterns
Baseline report (CH-001-009)
Cultural heritage

November 2013

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CFA9 | Central Chilterns

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Department
for Transport

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1 Introduction

1.1 Structure of the cultural heritage appendices

1.1.1 The cultural heritage appendices for the Central Chilterns community forum area (CFA9) comprise:

- baseline reports (this appendix);
- a gazetteer of heritage assets (Volume 5: Appendix CH-002-009);
- an impact assessment table (Volume 5: Appendix CH-003-009); and
- survey reports (Volume 5: Appendix CH-004-009).

1.1.2 Maps referred to throughout the cultural heritage appendices are contained in the Volume 5, Cultural Heritage Map Book.

1.2 Content and scope

1.2.1 This baseline provides the evidence base against which the assessment of assets that may be affected by the Proposed Scheme can be determined. It contains information about known and potential heritage assets from a variety of sources and presents a chronological description and discussion of the development of the study area, placing assets within their historical and archaeological context.

1.3 Study area

1.3.1 The Central Chilterns community forum area lies mainly within Chiltern District in Buckinghamshire and comprises parts of the civil parishes of Little Missenden, Great Missenden and Chartridge.

1.3.2 All non-designated and designated assets within the land required both temporarily and permanently for the construction and operation of the Proposed Scheme and within 500m of it have been detailed in this baseline assessment. In addition designated heritage assets have been examined which lie within the zone of theoretical visibility (ZTV).

1.3.3 All identified assets are listed in Volume 5: Appendix CH-002-009 and shown on maps CH-01-029, CH-01-029-L1, CH-01-030, CH-01-030-L1 and CH-02-014 (Volume 5, Cultural Heritage Map Book).

1.4 Data sources

1.4.1 Sources examined as part of this baseline assessment include published secondary sources, cartographic sources, historic environment record (HER) data for undesignated heritage assets and English Heritage National Heritage List data for designated assets. A full list of published sources can be found in Section 9 of this appendix.

1.5 Surveys undertaken

1.5.1 The following surveys were undertaken as part of the environmental impact assessment (EIA) process:

- light detection and ranging (LiDAR) survey of the majority of the Proposed Scheme and land around it (see Volume 5: Appendix CH-004-009);
- aerial photographic and hyperspectral survey of the majority of the land around the Proposed Scheme (see Volume 5: Appendix CH-004-009);
- a programme of non-intrusive surveys including geophysical prospection (see Volume 5: Appendix CH-004-009); and
- site reconnaissance field inspections to review the setting of historic assets and the character and form of the historic landscape (incorporated in this appendix).

2 Geology, topography and landform

- 2.1.1 The study area lies on the dip-slope of the Chilterns and flanks the valley of the River Misbourne which drains eastward to the River Colne and thence to the River Thames.
- 2.1.2 The underlying geology comprises chalk of Cretaceous date which outcrops on the valley sides of the River Misbourne but on the adjacent plateau eastwards is overlain by superficial Clay-with-Flints strata of Pleistocene date. These are predominantly chalks of the Lewes Nodular Formation, the Seaford Formation and the New Pit Formation; all within the Sussex White Chalk Subgroup. These form heavy acidic, stony brown earths difficult to cultivate and often lacking fertility.
- 2.1.3 Interspersed along the scarp and dip-slope the Chilterns landscape is dissected by a network of dry valleys that dip gently south-east towards the River Thames. These river valleys were excavated under periglacial conditions and are generally floored by thick layers of chalk and clay derived from valley sides, which have thin, well-drained rendzina soils.
- 2.1.4 The superficial deposits of Clay-with-Flints are extensive on the plateau with some glacial head (colluvial) deposits within the valley floor of the River Misbourne to the west of the study area and alluvial deposits within the valley floor throughout the study area. It is possible that erosion on the plateau land and valley sides of the Misbourne and its tributaries will have also resulted in deposition of colluvium on lower slopes and within the valley floor. Such alluvial and colluvial deposits have the potential to mask archaeological deposits and to 'seal in' deposits of palaeoenvironmental interest.
- 2.1.5 The River Misbourne rises on the outskirts of Great Misbourne and flows generally southwards through Little Missenden to its confluence with the River Colne. The valley forms a natural routeway across the dip-slope of the Chilterns from its confluence with the Colne and thence the Thames near Denham to the south-east to the scarp slope overlooking the Vale of Aylesbury near Wendover to the north-west.
- 2.1.6 The area is generally characterised by chalk plateau land, dissected by valleys, such as the River Misbourne, draining to the south-east; these valleys have their own small tributary systems that are today mainly only active in winter or very wet seasons.
- 2.1.7 The study area is predominantly rural and agricultural. The present settlement character is predominantly one of dispersed settlement comprising farmsteads and small hamlets adjacent to the principal valleys set within a heavily wooded landscape. Much of the woodland is ancient beechwood. The principal settlements of Great Missenden and Little Missenden lie within the base of the valley of the River Misbourne. Smaller settlements at Hyde Heath and South Heath lie further up the eastern valley flank overlooking the landscape to the west.
- 2.1.8 Former local industry is represented throughout the study area by evidence of former chalk pits both in the landscape and on earlier Ordnance Survey (OS) maps. These are all small and dispersed examples. No active pits are currently at work within the study area.

- 2.1.9 The Marylebone to Aylesbury Line and the A413 are the primary communications routes through the study area, both lying near the base of the Misbourne Valley, through which they pass throughout the length of the study area. The A413 is joined on its eastern side by several minor roads which serve the surrounding villages, hamlets and dispersed farms and other residences.
- 2.1.10 The Proposed Scheme will lie further to the east and will run along the shoulder of the valley throughout the length of the study area, predominantly passing through Clay-with-Flints strata overlying the chalk, and the edges of two dry valleys, the lower-lying parts south-west of the scheme retaining deposits of colluvium.

3 Archaeological and historical background

3.1 Introduction

- 3.1.1 This section provides a chronological overview of the archaeological evidence within the study area. This baseline review forms a contextualisation within which individual assets can be considered. Descriptions of all archaeological assets, whether designated or not, which lie wholly or partially within land required both temporarily and permanently for the construction and operation of the Proposed Scheme, or within 500m of the edge of this land, are contained in the Gazetteer in Volume 5: Appendix CH-002-009. The assets are shown on maps CH-01-029, CH-01-029-L1, CH-01-030, CH-01-030-L1 and CH-02-014 (Volume 5, Cultural Heritage Map Book). The Gazetteer also considers all designated archaeological assets within the ZTV. The Gazetteer entries include assessments of value where appropriate.

3.2 Early prehistory (circa 500,000 - 1,500 BC)

- 3.2.1 The earliest evidence of human occupation in Britain dates from the Lower Palaeolithic (circa 500,000 BC onwards. Evidence for Palaeolithic hominin and human activity is predominantly informed by the presence of stone tools, commonly also by palaeoenvironmental remains and far less commonly by other organic remains such as butchered bones and wooden tools. By far the majority of all such finds derive from fluvial sands and gravels that comprise river terrace deposits.
- 3.2.2 Assemblages of Palaeolithic material have usually been recorded in lowland Britain, reflecting both the exploitation of river valleys and coastal plains, glacial lakes and other potential hunting grounds, as well as the preferential survival of remains in such locations¹. Assemblages are similarly centred in areas of particular geology near to areas with flint bearing rocks suitable for tool making.
- 3.2.3 Within Buckinghamshire's historic environment record there are approximately 400 records that refer to Palaeolithic finds. Few of these are the result of formal archaeological excavation but represent finds made during construction, quarrying or fieldwalking. Where the condition of lithic finds is recorded the majority are described as "rolled" suggesting they were the result of secondary deposition. Far rarer discoveries such as at Station Pit in Taplow, approximately 25km to the south-west of the Proposed Scheme, comprise hundreds of lithic artefacts with very little evidence of degradation or rolling suggesting that they are close to their original point of deposition if not actually in-situ².
- 3.2.4 The watercourses within the wider study area, specifically the River Misbourne, are local streams and tributaries and no river terraces or gravels are recorded which might be suitable for preserving re-deposited Palaeolithic remains. In the higher plateau areas the chalk bedrock is overlain by Clay-with-Flints strata. "Lowland" areas are

¹ Wymer, J., (1968), *Lower Palaeolithic Archaeology in Britain: As Represented by the Thames Valley*, John Baker.

² Silva, B. and Farr, L., (2010), Earliest Buckinghamshire. In: M. Farley (ed.), *An Illustrated History of Early Buckinghamshire*, Buckinghamshire Archaeological Society, Aylesbury, P1-27.

characterised by valley fills of periglacial colluvium (“Head”) and possible Holocene colluvium, for example within the Misbourne Valley, and alluvial deposits. In addition no cave sites or geology or topography suitable for such sites lie within the study area.

- 3.2.5 The Clay-with-Flints strata of the Chilterns are the main focus in this area for evidence of Palaeolithic activity. The understanding and interpretation of Palaeolithic material found on the surface and within Clay-with-Flints strata is difficult^{3,4}. Scott-Jackson contends that the potential of the Palaeolithic resource on these landscapes has not to date been recognised and that artefacts in Clay-with-Flints strata are largely in-situ and from depths of up to approximately 1m. The contrary view is that Clay-with-Flints strata are re-deposited Palaeogene / Cretaceous sediments which may have been re-deposited into solution hollows during the Pleistocene thereby incorporating reworked artefacts. The reworking is the reason why artefacts are buried to significant depths.
- 3.2.6 Much less research has been undertaken in Buckinghamshire than in counties such as Kent or Hampshire on these deposits. Within the Buckinghamshire Chilterns no finds either of Palaeolithic artefacts or of palaeo-environmental remains have yet been recorded from these exposures⁵. This may, however, reflect a less extensively recorded or understood resource: an absence of evidence rather than evidence of absence⁶.
- 3.2.7 Recent research specific to the Palaeolithic of Buckinghamshire comprises investigations undertaken by Oxford University in 2009 at Erriwig Farm, Arrewig Lane near Chesham, circa 2.5km to the north-east of the Proposed Scheme⁷. A fairly cursory visual assessment of a “brickearth” pit within the Clay-with-Flints landscape failed to identify any artefacts of Palaeolithic date and fieldwalking, whilst yielding a number of Neolithic to Bronze Age lithics, produced nothing of Palaeolithic date. One aim of the fieldwork was to test Scott-Jackson’s premise that these hilltop and plateau edges were very important to Palaeolithic people who from such vantages could watch animal movements or groups of people whilst taking advantage of knappable flint or stone resources.
- 3.2.8 The notion that such artefacts could be considered broadly in-situ is important when considering the human activity and spatial distribution in this landscape during the Palaeolithic. The presumption, however, that these Clay-with-Flints strata have remained relatively stable throughout the Palaeolithic and Holocene means that artefacts of later prehistoric periods, Mesolithic to Bronze Age specifically, are also

³ Wenban-Smith, F., Bridgland, D.R. and Cramp, K., (2010), *Solent-Thames Research Framework Resource Assessment: The Lower / Middle Palaeolithic Period*.

⁴ Scott-Jackson, J.E., (2000), *Lower and Middle Palaeolithic Artefacts from Deposits Mapped as Clay with Flints - A New Synthesis with Significant Implications for the Earliest Occupation of Britain*, Oxford, Oxbow Books.

⁵ Wilkinson, K. and Hennessy, S., (2004), *An Assessment of the Archaeological Potential of Pleistocene Deposits in Hampshire*, University of Winchester.

⁶ Silva, B., (2008), *An Archaeological Resource Assessment of the Lower and Middle Palaeolithic in Buckinghamshire. Prepared for the Solent-Thames Research Framework Resource Assessment: The Lower / Middle Palaeolithic Period*.

⁷ Scott-Jackson, J.E., (2009), *Geo-archaeological Investigations at Arrewig Lane, near Chesham, Buckinghamshire – PADMAC Unit Report*. PADMAC Unit, University of Oxford.

recovered in the same surface and near-surface contexts. There is little precisely stratified material, rather a palimpsest of material representing 500,000 years⁸.

- 3.2.9 Within the study area to date only three recorded artefacts of Palaeolithic date (circa 500,000 BC – circa 10,000 BC), all hand axes have been recorded, one found during fieldwalking to the south-west of Hyde House (CCo24) on the Clay-with-Flints strata of the plateau adjacent to the Misbourne Valley, one found near Little Missenden in the 19th century (CCo14) and another in Great Missenden also in the 19th century whilst excavating foundations to build a bridge (CCo53). It is possible, though the potential is low, that other Palaeolithic artefacts may survive in these areas.
- 3.2.10 The Chiltern dip-slope is identified in the Solent Thames Archaeological Research Framework⁹ as having seen human activity from at least the Mesolithic (circa 10,000 BC – circa 4,000 BC) period (and probably from the later Palaeolithic (circa 50,000 BC – circa 10,000 BC) and that human activity through all periods has largely been concentrated in the principal valley systems, specifically within and immediately adjacent to the Misbourne Valley.
- 3.2.11 Remains in the wider region dating from the Upper Palaeolithic (circa 50,000 BC – circa 10,000 BC) and Mesolithic (circa 10,000 BC – circa 4,000 BC) periods are to date similarly scarce to those of the earlier Palaeolithic. Such remains would comprise worked flint and stone including microliths, which are recorded in greater numbers in the upland areas of Buckinghamshire than in the lowland valleys¹⁰, bone scatters and other evidence reflecting the temporary camps of nomadic hunter-gatherer groups. This evidence would be preserved as scatters of material within the ploughsoil and subsoil.
- 3.2.12 Mesolithic sites in the wider region are generally located on rising ground overlooking river valleys and watercourses, and are frequently found on sandy geology such as the Corallian Ridge and the Hampshire Greensand¹¹. No such geologies lie within the study area which is dominated by chalk geology and a lack of the free-draining soils favoured by hunter-gatherers.
- 3.2.13 Hunter-gatherer groups in the Mesolithic increasingly began to exploit a wider range of landscapes and localities¹², potentially including the Misbourne Valley and plateau landscape that makes up much of the study area. Given the established exploitation of the uplands elsewhere in Britain there may be a potential (albeit quite low) for remains of this date to lie within the study area. Given the necessity of both water and other resources the landscape overlooking the River Misbourne may represent the best opportunity for the survival of such evidence.
- 3.2.14 There is some evidence on the Clay-with-Flints strata for surviving lithic artefacts of all dates, as noted above, but evidence at present for artefacts of the Upper Palaeolithic - Early Mesolithic periods is particularly poorly recorded. To the west of High Wycombe

⁸ Wenban-Smith, F., Bridgland, D.R. and Cramp, K., (2010).

⁹ Silva, B., (2008).

¹⁰ Hey, G., (2010), Late Upper Palaeolithic and Mesolithic Period. In: *The Solent Thames Archaeological Research Framework*.

¹¹ Hey, G., (2010).

¹² Barton, R.N.E and Roberts, A. J., (2004), The Mesolithic period in England: current perspectives and new research. In: A. Saville (Ed.), *Mesolithic Scotland and its Neighbours*, P339-358.

at Turville artefacts of probable Early Mesolithic date were recovered from the Clay-with-Flints strata, comprising numerous cores, microliths and several tranche axes¹³.

- 3.2.15 Within the study area Mesolithic remains and a Palaeolithic axe have been recovered during widening of the A413 close to Little Missenden (CCo15); in fieldwalking on land to the north of Mantle's Wood (CCo24); between Rowan Farm and Hyde Lane (CCo34) and between Broome Farm and Cudsden's Farm, east of Wendover Woods (CCo35). Each of these areas lies on the higher plateau land to the east of the Misbourne Valley.
- 3.2.16 The Neolithic (circa 4,000 BC – circa 2,400 BC) period is generally characterised by more permanent settlement, a reduction in nomadic, transient hunter-gatherer groups, and by the establishment of farming. Despite this shift to agriculture, hunting, gathering and fishing remained important to the local economies¹⁴.
- 3.2.17 Settlement evidence for the Early Neolithic commonly comprises flint and stone scatters, limited pottery remains and occasional cut features such as pits. Settlement enclosures and funerary monuments begin to be recorded in the landscape in the later Neolithic but are scarce and none are recorded within the study area. Evidence for this period elsewhere in Buckinghamshire suggests that settlement continued to be situated adjacent to watercourses¹⁵ with evidence frequently recorded buried beneath colluvium¹⁶. In Marlow, approximately 18km to the south-west of the study area, evidence of early farming was recovered from two locations where Early Neolithic pottery was found, one of which also yielded organic remains and flint tools. Further to the north in the Chilterns the only substantive Early Neolithic site known lies at Whiteleaf Barrow on the Chiltern Scarp overlooking Princes Risborough. This comprised an inhumation radiocarbon dated to 3760 -3640 calibrated BC set within a mortuary structure¹⁷. Some decades later this was capped over with a mound from which pottery, flint and animal bone were recovered¹⁸.
- 3.2.18 It may be the case that during the Neolithic sedentary agricultural practice was in the very early stages with a continuing strong focus on small mobile groups ranging across the landscape in similar tradition to the Mesolithic. In the wider study area scatters of poorly dated flint tools and axes may be the traces left behind by such mobile communities who may have been herding cattle, planting and tending crops in temporary clearings¹⁹.
- 3.2.19 Finds of Middle and Late Neolithic pottery are rare in the Chilterns. Evidence from tree-throw holes and pits has been recorded at Chesham²⁰. The majority of sites around the county are found on well drained gravel or limestone soils although heavier soils were not avoided entirely despite the difficulties posed to agricultural practice with simple tools.

¹³ Silva, B. & Farr, L., (2010).

¹⁴ Thomas, J., (1999), *Understanding the Neolithic*, London, Routledge.

¹⁵ Kidd, S., (2010), Prehistoric Farmers. In: M. Farley, (Ed.) *An Illustrated History of Early Buckinghamshire*, Buckinghamshire Archaeological Society, Aylesbury, P27-75.

¹⁶ Bradley, R., (2010), The Neolithic and Early Bronze Age. In: *The Solent-Thames Archaeological Research Framework*.

¹⁷ The calibrated years prefix (cal) indicates that the dates are the result of radiocarbon calibration using tree ring data. These values should correspond exactly to normal historical years BC and AD.

¹⁸ Kidd, S., (2010).

¹⁹ Kidd, S., (2010).

²⁰ Silva, B. & Farr, L., (2010).

- 3.2.20 Scatters of flint tools and debris recovered from the surface of ploughed fields around the county and within the study area are less rare and more widely distributed. Flint is readily accessible in the chalk, especially in the south of the county and has been spread further across much of the county by glacial action. These scatters reflect both casual finds and systematic programmes such as fieldwalking and archaeological excavation and blank areas may not reflect absence as much as a lack of focussed fieldwork in such areas. A notable difficulty is the dating of such flint artefacts since few if any are associated with other artefacts and cannot be dated with precision alone. Any of these scatters can therefore be of either Neolithic or Bronze Age origin or could be mixed assemblages.
- 3.2.21 Concentrations of such flint artefact scatters are recorded in the Chess and Misbourne valleys and several locations are recorded within the study area. Extensive scatters of Neolithic to Early Bronze Age flint artefacts chiefly found during fieldwalking surveys on the plateau land and eastern shoulder of the Misbourne Valley suggest the area was well utilised certainly as a source of flint and probably for other resources too. Tools, cores and flakes have been recovered to the north and south of Frith Hill and west of Sibley's Coppice, around Hyde Farm; south-west of Hyde House; north of Chapel Farm; in fields around Cudsden's Farm; in fields east of Deepmill Farm; at Springfield Farm in Potter Row and around Havenfields and Woodland Park at the northern end of the study area (CCo24, CCo34, CCo35, CCo64, CCo98; CCo76 and CCo83).
- 3.2.22 Despite the limitations presented by fieldwork to date such flint scatters demonstrate that Neolithic communities were utilising the landscape throughout Buckinghamshire and were not restricted to the river valleys or the Chiltern Scarp. The fact that more flint axes and other finds come from the Chilterns than from further north in the county might be a genuine indication that the Chilterns was more densely populated and subject to more woodland clearance, although it could also reflect that these areas were the best source of raw materials and so saw more activity²¹. It is evident there is a reasonable potential elsewhere on the higher valley slopes and the plateau within the study area for the survival of scatters of flint tools and flakes dating from the Neolithic to Bronze Age.

3.3 Later prehistory (circa 1,500 BC - AD 43)

- 3.3.1 The Bronze Age (circa 2,400 BC – circa 700 BC) is defined by the first usage of copper and bronze working in Britain as well as the introduction of Beaker pottery. The evidence for Bronze Age settlement is much scarcer than that for funerary activity. Early Bronze Age settlement evidence is likely to be broadly similar to that of the Neolithic comprising artefactual evidence and limited features, overwhelmingly cut pits.
- 3.3.2 As with the Neolithic, Early Bronze Age settlements are most likely to be found on rising ground overlooking watercourses and river valleys or other lighter free-draining soils, a reflection of the need for the resources and transportation provided by the major rivers. Unlike much of the rest of southern Britain evidence for later Neolithic

²¹ Kidd, S., (2010).

and Early Bronze Age ceremonial/burial monuments such as causewayed enclosures, henges and round barrows is absent from the Chiltern dip-slope and the Misbourne Valley.

- 3.3.3 Settlement evidence of Neolithic and Early Bronze Age date is much scarcer (typically comprising only shallow pits or scrapes) and where present may have been lost through slope erosion or buried under later colluvium. It is likely that settlement was a relatively mobile mosaic within a predominantly wooded landscape. No such features have to date been recorded within the study area.
- 3.3.4 Funerary remains are characterised by a shift from group burials and large group tombs to round barrows and individual burial, including the first recorded round barrows. These barrows are recorded across Britain and are found across the landscape, possibly reflecting territorial boundaries²². Barrows are more frequently extant in the uplands, reflecting both differential preservation due to differences in land use and also perhaps a reflection of the increasing exploitation of more marginal land.
- 3.3.5 These monuments can be extant within the landscape as small mounds which can be difficult to interpret due to their physical similarity to mill mounds and other later features. These mounds may represent the extant elements of barrows. Round barrows also contain below ground elements, including ring ditches and primary and secondary burials which may survive even when the barrow itself is destroyed. None are known within the study area, though an unusually small example is known close by at Chesham²³.
- 3.3.6 There is some evidence in the wider landscape, outside the study area of Neolithic and Bronze Age burnt mounds which are, however, quite well represented in the Misbourne Valley. Traditionally these tend to be located near a water supply²⁴.
- 3.3.7 Only a few metal objects are recorded of Early Bronze Age date in the county, including a copper alloy dagger found at Great Missenden, an unspecified object of probable Bronze Age date found near Kennel Farm on the north side of Little Missenden (CC003) and a copper alloy axe found at Deepmill Farm (CC101).
- 3.3.8 Flint artefacts are difficult to date precisely and can only be ascribed a broad Neolithic to Bronze Age date where found without associated dateable evidence. Therefore the scatters of flint tools and flakes found as a result of fieldwalking and more casual circumstances could be of Bronze Age origin including artefacts recovered during widening of the A413 near Little Missenden (CC015).
- 3.3.9 The Middle Bronze Age (circa 1,500 BC - circa 1,100 BC) saw the first sustained settlement evidence with round houses, field enclosures and droeways all recorded elsewhere within Buckinghamshire. Settlement evidence for this period comprises more substantial cut features (including postholes, gullies, enclosures and paddocks) as well as pottery and bronze artefacts. Roundhouses are the typical settlement

²² Watson, A., (2001), Round Barrows in a Circular World: monumentalising landscapes in Early Bronze Age Wessex. In: J. Brück (Ed.), *Bronze Age Landscapes: Tradition and Transformation*, Oxbow, Oxford, P207-216.

²³ Kidd, S., (2010).

²⁴ Kidd, S., (2009), *Buckinghamshire Late Bronze Age and Iron Age: Historic Environment Resource Assessment*, Buckinghamshire County Council.

feature of the period, found both in isolation and in small groups. As with earlier periods these settlements are most likely to be found overlooking watercourses in landscapes with free-draining soils suitable for agriculture. Deforestation and woodland clearance expanded during this period²⁵. This deforestation suggests there may be greater potential for settlement in the more marginal upland areas, including the flanks of the Misbourne Valley within the study area.

- 3.3.10 As well as settlement there is also evidence in the Bronze Age for land division, evidence for which survives as extant landscape features elsewhere in Buckinghamshire. These divisions survive as shallow cut features as well as earthworks and large dykes. North of the Chilterns traces of later Bronze Age ditches are recorded at Aylesbury (Weedon Hill). Within the Chilterns there are areas where coaxial fields survive in places though their origin in the prehistoric period is still uncertain. None, however, are located within the study area.
- 3.3.11 On a much larger scale the most substantial land boundary in the Chiltern landscape, Grim's Ditch at the northern edge of the study area, may be of later Bronze Age – Early Iron Age origin, though the dating of the monument is difficult to pinpoint precisely²⁶. The monument is treated in terms of assessment in the Dunsmore, Wendover and Halton community form area (CFA10). Other smaller earthworks such as cross-ridge dykes may have similar origins. These occur along the Chiltern Scarp north of the study area, for example at Whiteleaf Hill²⁷.
- 3.3.12 Overall within the county the settlement evidence for the later Bronze Age into the Early Iron Age is sparse. With the exception of occasional hilltop sites, some of which subsequently became defended hillforts, settlement occurred in open sites often occupied into later periods. These are very difficult to identify in the landscape from an archaeological perspective and in some instances may have been subsumed or destroyed by later settlement.
- 3.3.13 No excavated settlement evidence of Bronze Age date has yet been identified within the study area with the very tenuous exception of the single post-hole at Bury Farm on the southern edge of Potter Row (CCo66). During a test-pit excavation a small assemblage of sherds from at least three vessels of Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age date was recovered. The sparseness of evidence may be due to a lack of opportunity for investigation in the area. The focus of fieldwalking on the higher edge of the Misbourne Valley and plateau area has, however, demonstrated that the landscape was in use from the earliest periods, perhaps chiefly exploited as a source of flint rather than for settlement and it may be that exploitation of this resource was less prevalent in later prehistory. It may also be the case that agricultural practice in the study area on the heavier Clay-with-Flints landscape was more focussed on pastoral farming rather than more intensive arable practices. This alongside more open dispersed settlement is harder to identify in the archaeological record.
- 3.3.14 In general and across the county metalwork becomes more common during the later Bronze Age being found in settlement sites, buried as hoards in pits deposited in rivers

²⁵ Rackham, O., (2001), *Trees and Woodland in the British Landscape*, Phoenix Press, London.

²⁶ Kidd, S., (2010).

²⁷ Kidd, S., (2010).

and as isolated finds²⁸. No such finds have been recorded to date within the study area.

- 3.3.15 There is a reasonable potential throughout the study area for the survival of scatters of flint tools and flakes anywhere on the extensive Clay-with-Flints strata of the higher valley side and plateau area. These could be of Neolithic to Bronze Age date. Evidence of settlement, associated ceramic and metal artefacts and of organic remains is much less likely, though cannot be ruled out.
- 3.3.16 The Bronze Age pattern of isolated farmsteads changes in the Iron Age (circa 700 BC – AD 43). This period saw the addition of larger settlements and more centralised features such as hillforts, of which the nearest example is at Aylesbury, and oppida (proto-urban centres), the nearest of which is at St Albans. These large settlements are rarer in Buckinghamshire than in other parts of Southern England such as Wessex. This may reflect a focus in the landscape more on livestock as opposed to arable agriculture. In addition no evidence of Iron Age funerary monuments is recorded within the study area, which is a sharp contrast to the landscapes to the south.
- 3.3.17 In the wider region there seems to be evidence for a concentration of activity to the north of the study area on the Gault Formation / Greensand Formation in the Vale of Aylesbury, at the foot of the Chilterns and in the Great Ouse Valley. There is also evidence of Iron Age settlement to the south of the study area. This concentration and density of settlement appears to be increasing from the Middle Iron Age (circa 400 BC - circa 100 BC) onwards.
- 3.3.18 The presence of hillforts and cross ridge dykes running perpendicular to the Chiltern scarp elsewhere in the Chilterns suggests that a pattern of bi-axial routes across the Chilterns had been established before the Roman period. Many have survived to the present day as trackways and minor roads.
- 3.3.19 The existing woodland of the Chilterns may contain further extensive landscape scale features and boundaries. Evidence of this may have been observed during work on the Ashridge Estate in Hertfordshire and it is also possible that the Chiltern beech woods may have their origins in the 1st millennium BC²⁹.
- 3.3.20 Larger scale societal divisions may well have been present from early in the Iron Age but are not clear until the introduction of tribal coinages in the 1st century BC. There is little evidence for any centralisation from the Late Bronze Age into the Early Iron Age except for the limited number of hillforts on the Chiltern Scarp.
- 3.3.21 These larger scale societal divisions may well be reflected by landscape divisions too, nowhere better illustrated than by the extant remains of Grim's Ditch at the northern edge of the study area. Grim's Ditch, with an origin in the later Bronze Age – Early Iron Age, may have been a tribal boundary feature but is more likely to have been established to constrain cattle being driven within valleys linking to the rivers Wye and Chess.

²⁸ Kidd, S., (2010).

²⁹ Morris, M. and Wainwright A., (1995), Iron Age and Romano-British settlement and economy in the Upper Bulbourne Valley, Hertfordshire. In: R. Holgate, R. (ed.), *Chiltern Archaeology: Recent Work - A Handbook for the Next Decade*, The Book Castle, Dunstable, P68-75.

- 3.3.22 Later prehistoric Buckinghamshire has much more in common with East Anglia than the Thames Valley. By the 1st century BC the area formed the western part of the territory of the Catuvellauni which had a major oppidum at St Albans.
- 3.3.23 It is likely that population increase during the Iron Age may have necessitated farming on previously more marginal areas. The Clay-with-Flints strata on the flanks of the Misbourne Valley is such a landscape. It has been established from mollusc and pollen evidence that the wider landscape had been largely cleared of woodland in the Bronze Age which may have further encouraged farming in the study area or been a result of the pressure to expand into new areas for arable agriculture and grazing³⁰.
- 3.3.24 Evidence of Iron Age settlement in the landscape around the study area is scarce though this is possibly a function of a lack of more extensive archaeological investigation in the wider area.
- 3.3.25 With the exception of the single post-hole and assemblage of vessel sherds recovered at Bury Farm on the southern edge of Potter Row (CCo66), a few sherds of pottery in fields east of Deepmill Farm (CCo98) and a single piece of Iron Age slag recovered during fieldwalking (CCo24), nothing else of Iron Age date has been recovered within the study area.

3.4 Romano-British (AD 43-410)

- 3.4.1 Changes in settlement patterns in Buckinghamshire in the Late Iron Age/Roman Period have been described as "subtle rather than dramatic"³¹. Indeed it is thought there is sufficient evidence to point to continuity of settlement from the Late Iron Age onwards into the post-Conquest (AD 43) period³². The study area during this period formed part of the civitas of the Catuvellauni.
- 3.4.2 It is difficult to determine the potential for continuity of occupation of prehistoric sites into the Roman period within the study area since there is so little evidence to draw on. Settlement of Roman date is usually more extensive in scale than that of later prehistory with a greater variety of material culture (including new pottery typologies, metalwork and glass). There is also widespread use of stone, brick and tile for building. The establishment of the Roman road network also had a major effect on the landscape leading to the establishment of new settlements and the growth of existing centres.
- 3.4.3 It appears that the higher ground on the Chiltern dip-slope was generally avoided for settlement during Late Iron Age and Roman periods, with settlement being attracted to the valleys on the dip-slope, including the Misbourne Valley. Fieldwalking on the Chiltern dip-slope outside of the valleys has so far proven unproductive³³.
- 3.4.4 Generally there appears to be an increase in population and settlement density between the 1st century BC and 1st century AD, although even here there is evidence

³⁰ Kidd, S., (2010).

³¹ Kidd, S., (2010), P58.

³² Zeepvat, R J. and Radford, D., (2010), Roman Buckinghamshire. In: M. Farley (Ed.) *An Illustrated History of Early Buckinghamshire*, Buckinghamshire Archaeological Society, Aylesbury, P75-109.

³³ Farley, M., Henig, M. and Taylor, J.W., (1988), *A Hoard of Late Roman Bronze Bowls and the Mounts from the Misbourne Valley, near Amersham, Buckinghamshire*. Britannia Vol. 19, P357 – 366.

for some abandonment and dislocation. Abandonment of settlement locations appears to be widespread from the 2nd century which may reflect a fundamental re-organisation of the countryside with evidence for differential development marked by the establishment in the Chilterns of villas. This re-organisation was radical and allowed the support of a growing and complex pattern of settlement for the next 300 years and possibly beyond.

- 3.4.5 The pattern of rural settlement in Buckinghamshire was of dispersed agrarian villas and farmsteads. These ranged in size from small farmsteads with roundhouses through to small farms with Romano-British buildings and more substantial villas. The more productive agricultural land in the county, such as the Chalk Marl and Greensand of the Icknield Way corridor, the Portland ridge through Aylesbury, and to a lesser extent the Chiltern valleys has concentrations of villas and farms orientated on arterial roads linking farms to urban markets³⁴.
- 3.4.6 Villas developed from agrarian settlements in the late 1st to early 2nd century AD. In the Chilterns villas appear to be spread at approximately 2-3km intervals suggesting a formal division of land with individual estates of approximately 180 - 240ha by the 2nd century. The Chiltern villas were relatively rich by the 4th century suggesting they may have been held by landowners and other elites with interests in St Albans and/or even London³⁵. Evidence for this wealth comes from coin hoards identified at Chalfont St Peter³⁶, Great Missenden³⁷ and Mantles Green³⁸.
- 3.4.7 There is evidence for a well established Romano-British farming community in the Misbourne Valley with a number of Romano-British villa or farmstead settlements along the path of the river³⁹. Between Little Missenden and Amersham four possible Romano-British villa sites have been identified, three of which lie within or near to Amersham and one just outside the study area in Little Missenden. It is therefore likely that the more modest evidence for Romano-British settlement at the upper end of the Misbourne Valley reflects a lower level of investigation rather than absence of remains.
- 3.4.8 Evidence for industry has also been identified. The remains of iron smelting have been found at Mantles Green, Amersham⁴⁰, ⁴¹ and Great Missenden⁴². Furthermore the recovery of large quantities of iron slag from woodland surveys in the Chilterns suggests that iron working sites in this area were widespread. Examples include Common Wood near Penn⁴³; the National Trust's Ashridge Survey and the Chiltern Woodland Survey⁴⁴.

³⁴ Zeepvat, R. J. and Radford, D., (2010).

³⁵ Zeepvat, R. J., (1991), *Roman Milton Keynes*, Milton Keynes Archaeology Unit.

³⁶ Hunn, J.R. and Farley, M., (1995), *The Chalfont St Peter Coin Hoard 1989*. Records of Buckinghamshire Vol. 37, P113-126.

³⁷ Farley, M., (1999), *Fieldwalking at Waddesdon: A Report for Buckinghamshire Archaeological Society*.

³⁸ Yeoman, P.A. and Stewart, I.J., (1992), *A Romano-British Villa Estate at Mantles Green, Buckinghamshire*, Records of Buckinghamshire Vol 34, P107-182.

³⁹ Zeepvat, R. J. and Radford, D., (2007), *Roman Buckinghamshire, (draft)* Solent-Thames Research Framework.

⁴⁰ David, A., (1982), *Amersham Bypass: Ancient Monuments Lab Report*, Geophysics G11/82.

⁴¹ Yeoman, P., (1984), *Mantles Green, Amersham*, Britannia Vol. 49, P266-332.

⁴² Head, J.F., (1964), *A Romano-British site at Great Missenden*, Records of Buckinghamshire Vol. 17.4, P228-231.

⁴³ Edwards, Y. and Wells, M., (2006), *Common Wood earthwork and enclosure: A Footnote for 2006*, Chess Valley Journal.

⁴⁴ Morris, M. and Wainwright, A., (1995).

- 3.4.9 The continued prevalence or re-establishment of woodland on the Chiltern Scarp and dip-slope during the Roman or early medieval (AD 410 – AD 1066) periods has been suggested but has not been reliably proven⁴⁵. Excavations at Mantles Green, Amersham in the Misbourne Valley do, however, suggest the presence of mixed oak/alder and beech woodland. These excavations indicate also that ash was starting to become more prevalent as these woodlands⁴⁶.
- 3.4.10 Although no excavated settlement evidence of Roman date has yet been identified within the study area in proximity to the river at Great Missenden and Little Missenden, this is most likely be due to a lack of archaeological investigation in the area. The same may be so to a lesser extent higher up the valley slope and on the plateau. A small quantity of Romano-British artefacts comprising 1st and 2nd century AD sherds was recovered from fieldwalking surveys in fields south-west of Hyde House (CCo34). Two coins were also found in fields between Broome Farm, Hyde Farm and Cudsden's Farm (CCo35). These finds suggest that Romano-British settlement activity could be present within the land required both temporarily and permanently for the construction and operation of the Proposed Scheme. In Rook Wood at the medieval scheduled monument site of the Castle several sherds of Romano-British pottery were recovered in the 19th century (CCo38) and a single sherd of pottery was recovered at the scheduled monument moated site in Chalkdell Wood just to the north of Frith Hill (CCo54).

3.5 Early medieval (AD 410 - 1066)

- 3.5.1 Evidence for the post-Roman transition period in Buckinghamshire is extremely rare and poorly understood. Understanding the archaeology of the 5th to 7th centuries AD is very challenging as material culture is drastically reduced. Handmade Anglo-Saxon pottery does not survive well in plough soils and coinage is only present in the wider region reliably from the Middle Saxon (circa AD 700) period onwards. There are no known sites of early medieval date with the study area. This may indicate refocusing of settlement onto lighter soils in the post-Roman period⁴⁷.
- 3.5.2 The early medieval period is also generally less visible in terms of archaeological remains with almost no physical evidence dating to the period known from within the study area. The only evidence of settlement lies at Little Missenden. There the parish Church of St John the Baptist is thought to have a 10th to 11th century core and an unstratified copper-alloy stirrup mount probably of similar date was recovered by metal detector (CCo14)⁴⁸.
- 3.5.3 Many early medieval settlements are likely to have been precursors to extant villages making identification difficult. Little Missenden may be one such example. The major change, a shift from dispersed to nucleated villages, is likely to have been largely concealed by subsequent development.

⁴⁵ Edgeworth, M., (2006), *Changes in the Landscape: Archaeological Investigations of an Iron Age Enclosure on the Stoke Hammond Bypass*, Records of Buckinghamshire Vol. 46, P119-148.

⁴⁶ Miles, A., (1992), "The Charcoal". In: Yeoman, P.A. and Stewart, I.J., *A Romano-British Villa Estate at Mantles Green*, Buckinghamshire. Records of Buckinghamshire Vol. 34.

⁴⁷ Zeepvat, R. J. and Radford, D., (2010).

⁴⁸ Farley, M., (2010), *An Illustrated History of Early Buckinghamshire*, Buckinghamshire Archaeological Society, Aylesbury.

- 3.5.4 At the northern edge of the study area the prehistoric Grim's Ditch boundary earthwork remained a notable feature in later centuries into the early medieval period, acquiring its present name (a variation on the name of the Norse god Odin) at some point, perhaps during the period of pagan Saxon settlement in the 5th and 6th centuries. With the exception of this earthwork nothing else of the period has been identified in the study area.
- 3.5.5 By the Norman Conquest (AD 1066) the present settlement pattern focussed on the villages of Great and Little Missenden had probably been established.
- 3.5.6 The landscape within the study area during this period was probably at least partially wooded though ascertaining to what degree is no easier a task than ascertaining the extent of rural settlement away from the presumed focus of the Misbourne Valley floor. It is probable that the woodland distribution didn't change much from the earlier Roman period and that the extensive agricultural landscape of mixed arable and pastoral practices was broadly sufficient for much of the period.
- 3.5.7 In terms of agriculture during the period there is only a little evidence around the county of enclosures associated with buildings and still less of field boundaries of the type familiar in the Roman period. There may have been more use made on unditched hedgerows which would leave little archaeological trace⁴⁹. It may be that the 'open field' systems common in the medieval period were first developed in the early medieval period but there is no firm evidence for this. Certainly between the 8th and 10th centuries great change occurred in Buckinghamshire's landscape. Farmed land associated with settlements was divided up into large fields, each then divided into furlongs and then again into ploughable strips of land. Another important element of the early medieval landscape in the Chilterns is the presence of a number of parishes along the Chiltern edge of elongated form extending from good arable land into less cultivable land and woodland on the Chiltern plateau. The survival of some of these less desirable areas of poor land can be seen in areas of commons and heath⁵⁰.

3.6 Medieval (1066 - 1540)

- 3.6.1 In the earlier part of the period between the 11th and 13th centuries Buckinghamshire's population grew and expanded into, and cultivated more of, the previously marginal land and woodland areas, broadly in line with other parts of England. Settlements proliferated at this time and the foundation of most of the towns in the county occurred too. Growth halted as a result of the Black Death in the 14th century and many settlements shrank or were abandoned with much of the land least suited to arable agriculture being taken out of cultivation. In Buckinghamshire as a whole there are 119 examples where village shrinkage has been noted on the ground⁵¹. There are also 83 known examples of abandoned village sites around the county mostly concentrated in the north. None are known within the study area. Further research may shed more light on the extent to which dispersed settlements in

⁴⁹ Farley, M., (2010).

⁵⁰ Farley, M., (2010).

⁵¹ Taylor-Moore, K., (2010), Medieval Buckinghamshire. In: M. Farley (ed.), *An Illustrated History of Early Buckinghamshire*, Buckinghamshire Archaeological Society, Aylesbury, P151-181.

the Chilterns, and within it the study area, experienced the same fate as the villages to the north of the Chiltern edge.

- 3.6.2 The broad pattern of landscape and settlement which exists in the study area today was laid out during the early medieval and medieval periods. It is clustered in villages focussing predominantly in the Misbourne Valley and surrounded by agricultural hinterland, with occasional manors and dispersed farmsteads as well as the locally dominant Misbourne Abbey. This broadly rural and agricultural settlement pattern would have been set amongst fairly extensive parcels of managed woodland. This is likely to have been a reflection of the poorer agricultural quality of the land on the higher Misbourne Valley sides and on the plateau. The Domesday survey of 1086 also reflects this concentration of woodland in the Chilterns as a whole. Ploughed land was most prevalent in the north of the Chilterns which is a strong indicator that a focus of village and farming hamlet settlement in the Chilterns lay to the north around settlements like Great Missenden and to a lesser extent Little Missenden. In much of the study area common edge settlements and interrupted rows of houses were present where buildings were grouped around a common or green. These had the appearance of a regularity of arrangement and spatial distribution, almost as though houses had been set at roughly equal distances apart⁵².
- 3.6.3 The administrative organisation of land and people was based on the manor, the primary purpose of which was to extract revenue for the benefit of the lord. Most such manorial sites have been found to have their origins in the 12th century or later, though the manorial system itself has its origins prior to the Norman Conquest. Lords in Buckinghamshire ranged from the king, through bishops and the aristocracy, to minor gentry and, increasingly, as time went on, the Oxford colleges. These manorial sites took a number of forms and although many were manor houses, some originated as castles whilst others were religious houses or monastic granges. All had an agricultural focus as evidenced by the remains of fishponds, dovecotes, warrens and mills set amongst arable fields, meadows, woodlands and wastes⁵³.
- 3.6.4 Manor houses were commonly surrounded by moats, the building of which peaked between about 1200 – 1325, a notable period of growth and prosperity. Over 160 moated sites are known in the county with the highest density along the northern edge of the Chilterns immediately below the scarp. Few are recorded in the Chilterns away from the northern edge but there are a number of woodland earthwork enclosures perhaps related to small woodland settlements. It is likely that these lesser settlements were occupied by wealthy tenants rather than manorial lords.
- 3.6.5 Evidence for medieval settlement within the study area is clearly represented by the earthwork and probable buried remains of a number of moated sites and possible motte and bailey castles. Several of these are scheduled monuments. Examples within the study area comprise Castle Tower, the remains of a motte and bailey just north of Hill House on Chalk Lane (CC017); the Castle, a former moated site in Rook Wood which may originally have been a manorial house or hunting lodge (CC038); a moated site in Chalkdell Woods just north of Frith Hill (CC054); a quite extensive example in

⁵² Taylor-Moore, K., (2010).

⁵³ Taylor-Moore, K., (2010).

woodland at Redding Wick, which includes enclosures, the remains of house platforms, a gatehouse and a possible tower (CCo65); and a moated site just north-west of Little Pednor Farm (CCo91).

- 3.6.6 Examples of moated sites such as these form a significant class of medieval monument and are important for the understanding of the distribution of wealth and status in the countryside. Castle Tower motte and bailey (CCo17) is unusual in its diminutive size and, though reduced by past ploughing, it survives well as a very complete example of this class of monument. It is a rare example in the region of an early post-Conquest monument. The Castle moated site (CCo38) survives largely undisturbed and intact and is an excellent example of this class of medieval earthwork. Just north-east of Great Missenden the moated site in Chalkdell Wood (CCo54) is an unusual variant of this class of medieval settlement, few of which survive in such a well preserved condition. Higher on the plateau to the east the monument at Redding Wick (CCo65) comprises a well preserved example of a strongly defended, single island, moated site. The moated site immediately north-west of Little Pednor Farm (CCo91) also survives well. Despite the infilling of all but the south-west corner of the moat the island remains largely undisturbed and will retain buried evidence for structures and other features relating to the earlier periods of occupation.
- 3.6.7 In addition to the scheduled monument sites there are several other locations where medieval settlement remains also survive. Two of these sites lie in ancient woodlands. Within Bray's Wood there is earthwork evidence of the former medieval settlement of Bray Green. This is likely to have been a farmstead with evidence of an enclosing bank and house platforms (CCo07). Within Mantle's Wood (CCo19) a boundary bank and quarry pits were recorded during a woodland survey (CC109). These are not dated but may be associated more widely with Mantle's Farm, which is thought to incorporate the possible remains of the medieval Mantell's manor house (CCo18). The scheduled monument Castle Tower motte and bailey site lies within 560m of the woodland to the east. Therefore, it is likely that Mantle's Wood once formed part of the medieval Mantell's Manor (CCo18) and/or the manor attached to the castle site, perhaps as part of a deer park. One other ancient woodland, Jenkins Wood, contains the remains of an earthen mound, banks and ditches believed to represent a medieval motte and bailey (CCo73). The area around the extant earthworks also holds significant potential for the survival of buried archaeological remains associated with a small manorial centre just north of and adjacent to Bury Farm (CCo66, CCo74).
- 3.6.8 Bury Farm, a group of four 18th century Grade II listed buildings (CCo70), lies immediately to the south-east of Jenkin's Wood (CCo73) and was the focus of small-scale archaeological investigation. A test pit uncovered a large assemblage of mis-fired 11th to 14th century pottery suggesting the probable location of a kiln site nearby, as well as the remains of a ditch, undated post-holes and a wall. Field survey at the farm also recorded a moat which is depicted on the 1843 tithe map and the remains of medieval boundary ditches, associated with field systems and a possible medieval fishpond (CCo66). Both the field system and the pottery assemblage pre-date the establishment of the Bury Farm moat which appears to have been superimposed on the existing agricultural landscape and this could be of later medieval origin.

- 3.6.9 Further evidence for medieval settlement activity is indicated by the possible existence of a medieval farmstead at Cudsden's Farm. Although there is no evidence of the remains of earlier buildings at the farm (only more recent post-medieval buildings), fieldwalking has yielded large assemblages of 13th and 14th century pottery. These finds were concentrated in fields immediately to the south of the existing buildings and are thought to be indicative of a potential settlement focus rather than simply the debris left behind as a result of manuring practices (CCo35).
- 3.6.10 Traces of medieval ploughing in open fields, which were later turned over to pasture, is still evident as degraded ridge and furrow in a number of fields. Those that survive best lie to the east of Great Missenden and close to former medieval moated sites at Redding Wick (CCo65), Bury Farm (CCo66) and the possible medieval farmstead at Cudsden's Farm (CCo35). These partially surviving elements of the historic landscape represent the remains of the study area's medieval agricultural hinterland (CCo32).
- 3.6.11 One of the major landholders of the area during the medieval period was Missenden Abbey which was founded at Great Missenden in 1133 (CCo51). The 12th century saw a rapid increase in the number of monasteries in England and there is a noticeable concentration of small houses founded in this period in north Buckinghamshire, less commonly in the Chilterns, despite the availability of lower grade marginal agricultural land and woodland favoured by the wealthy benefactors of such religious houses as land grants. Missenden Abbey itself is the earliest known of Buckinghamshire's religious houses and is a rare example of an Arrouasian abbey, a branch of the Augustinian order. It was the wealthiest house along with Notley further to the north-west. The abbey was one of the largest of the Arrouasian houses in the country with at least 26 canons and it came to hold a lot of land in the surrounding Chiltern area and probably throughout the study area. Fragments of medieval buildings are still visible within the existing standing buildings and others are known from archaeological excavation. After its dissolution in 1536 it was converted into a private house. The landscape park now associated with the abbey was laid out in the late 18th to early 19th century, commissioned by the owner in a rustic and picturesque style with bridges, icehouses, lakes and other features. The present Grade II registered park and garden (RPG) extends to the north-east, east and south-east of the former abbey. It is also designated as a conservation area which extends from the main historic core of Great Missenden, itself part of the same extended conservation area.
- 3.6.12 The Grade I listed Church of St Peter and Paul lies within the landscape park of Missenden Abbey on the eastern side of the A413 in an elevated position within a fairly enclosed, tree-covered and partially overgrown churchyard (CCo51). It dates largely to the 13th century, although the plan indicates that it possibly originated as a 12th century cruciform plan. It was heightened in the 15th century, added to and altered over the next two centuries and then restored and extended in 1900. There is a hollow-way which may be of medieval date which links the church with the moated site on Frith Hill in Chalkdell Woods (CCo54).
- 3.6.13 The settlement of Great Missenden (CCo53) is believed to have early medieval origins though this is still conjecture. The first mention comes with Domesday in 1086 where it is referred to as Missendene. It is thought that the name derives from dene meaning valley or hollow and the personal name Myrsa.

- 3.6.14 Within Great Missenden there are several other buildings of medieval date which would have co-existed with the working abbey. These include the Grade II* listed Abbey Farmhouse originally the gatehouse to Missenden Abbey and of at least 15th century origin if not earlier still (CCo53).
- 3.6.15 Other buildings of medieval date within the study area comprise the Grade I listed church of St John the Baptist at Little Missenden (CCo14). This has a 10th or 11th century core with 12th century arcades and 14th to 15th century elements. Little Missenden is also designated a conservation area. On the eastern periphery of Little Missenden lies Mill End Cottages which was originally a single early 16th century hall house. Elsewhere, on higher ground away from the valley bottom, Hyde Farmhouse on Hyde Lane is also of 16th century origin (CCo36); both are Grade II listed buildings. Great Hundridge Manor (CCo27), a predominantly post-medieval farmhouse incorporates the remains of a former private chapel of 13th century origin with two-pointed lancets to each side wall of 15th century date. This could indicate either that the chapel was formerly associated with a grander medieval manor house, though there is no evidence to substantiate this, or that the chapel once stood alone. Both are Grade II* listed buildings.
- 3.6.16 An important aspect the medieval activity, within the Misbourne Valley near South Heath, was the development of a pottery industry at Potter Row partially within the land required both temporarily and permanently for the construction and operation of the Proposed Scheme. This appears to have been active between the 13th and 15th centuries and subsequently rejuvenated in the 17th century (CCo77). There is archaeological evidence comprising assemblages of 13th to 17th century pottery, wasters and kiln remains which have been identified from fieldwalking in and around Potter Row and South Heath near Springfield Farm (CCo76, CCo77). Documentary evidence indicates that the name Potter Row was in existence by 1311 as Le Pottererewe. The Missenden Abbey cartulary also has an individual named Peter Pottarius who is listed in a land grant dated 1234-1257 allocating land to the north of Great Missenden which might refer to Potter Row. The similarities could just be coincidence of course. This pottery industry utilised the local clay available from the Clay-with-Flints deposits in the surrounding landscape on the flank of the valley and the plateau.
- 3.6.17 In terms of other industrial pursuits, a mill is mentioned in documentary sources at Little Missenden by 1352 at Mill End (CCo14).
- 3.6.18 Elsewhere within the study area fieldwalking and metal detector surveys have recovered quite extensive evidence for medieval activity, predominantly in the form of widespread scatters of pottery, though occasional metal objects and coins have also been found. Much of this could be the result of manuring and would have originated in the farmsteads and manorial settlements as well as the Abbey land holdings. Artefacts have been found in the fields to the south-east of Friendly Lodge Farm (CCo24); in fields east of Deepmill Farm (CCo98); on land just north of Rowan Farm (CCo34) and between Broome Farm, Hyde Farm and Cudsden's Farm, east of Wendover Woods (CCo35). Each of these areas lies partially within the land required both temporarily and permanently for the construction and operation of the Proposed Scheme.

- 3.6.19 The extensive surviving distribution of ancient woodlands within the study area is something of a reflection of the probable quite heavily wooded landscape of the medieval period. It is likely that surviving elements of former medieval woodlands have been reduced in area over the intervening centuries. Within the study area there are 24 woodlands thought to have their origins in the period. These comprise Weedonhill Wood/High Spring/Ostler's Wood (CC001), Bray's Wood (CC007), Todd's Wood (CC010), White's Wood (CC011), Breache's Wood (CC012), Halfacre and Coleman's Wood (CC013), Mantle's Wood (CC019), Devil's Den (CC028), Willow Coppice (CC029), Farthing's Wood (CC030), Rook Wood (CC039), The Hucketts (CC040), Sibley's Coppice (050), Atkins's and Hobbshill Woods (CC058), Angling Spring Wood (CC059), Stocking's Wood (CC062), Rignall Wood (CC063), Redding Wick (CC108), Jenkin's Wood (CC073), Black Grove (CC080), Havenfield Wood (CC081), Coneybank Wood (CC086), Furze Wood (CC087) and Bellows Wood (CC093).
- 3.6.20 It is likely that further research will confirm that the pattern of scattered settlement set within a relatively heavily wooded landscape established in the medieval period forms the basis for the pattern that continued through the post-medieval period (1539 – 1900) to the present day.

3.7 Post-medieval (1540 - 1900)

- 3.7.1 In the wider region the post-medieval period witnessed the widespread abandonment of the medieval agricultural organisation based on open fields with its ridge and furrow strips divided by headlands. This was replaced by enclosed fields both for arable production and to provide enclosed pasture. The enclosure of the landscape commenced in the later medieval period and accelerated after the final dissolution of the monasteries under Henry VIII between 1536 and 1539 which brought more land into private ownership.
- 3.7.2 The landscape within the study area was enclosed in a piecemeal fashion from the 16th century onwards before an organised programme of parliamentary enclosure was carried out in the 18th and 19th centuries. This led to the regular, more rectilinear, fields recorded in parts of the study area set amongst earlier less-regularly set out pre 18th century fields.
- 3.7.3 The character of settlement evidence becomes one in which surviving built structures are more prevalent and buried evidence, such as ceramic remains and metal objects similar to that of medieval date, survive quite extensively but typically in greater quantity and variety than previously.
- 3.7.4 A number of larger houses established by the gentry or by wealthier landowners are present within the study area in the Misbourne Valley and to a lesser extent away from it on higher ground. These can be associated with surrounding planned estates, parks and gardens. The dominant landscape park within the study area at Missenden Abbey has its origins in the medieval period though there is no evidence that the parkland or other designed elements of gardens have any medieval precedent (CC051). The monastic foundation was dissolved in 1538 and the monastery itself leased to Richard Greneway, a gentleman usher of the household, in 1541. In 1574 the Abbey was sold to William Fleetwood, and became the family home for the following two centuries. Parts of the abbey church were used within the mansion built by the Fleetwoods from

about 1600. The Fleetwoods owned the estate until 1787. Subsequently James Oldham bought the estate and carried out work to the house and grounds. In 1806 the estate was bought by John Ayton who continued to make substantial changes to the house and gardens. The estate was sold again in 1815 to the Caringtons, who owned the estate until the mid-20th century.

- 3.7.5 The 18th to 19th century park in which the former abbey and post-medieval buildings are set remains pasture with scattered mature park trees including lime, oak, chestnut and sycamore. The main feature of the park is Warren Water which lies in the western half with an island in it. The river runs along the western side of the park flowing into Warren Water at its north end, and leaves it at the south running under a restored 19th century iron bridge, continuing the length of the park to enter Bank's Pond. This pond may be medieval in origin and is dammed. The eastern half of the park, east of the bypass, is of similar character to the western half. It covers undulating hillside to the top of the hill, past the medieval church of St. Peter and St. Paul, a Grade I listed building which is prominent on the boundary.
- 3.7.6 Elsewhere in the study area the remains of a former designed landscape is evident in association with the Grade II listed 18th century Hyde House (CCo26) and on a smaller scale at Missenden House in Little Missenden (CCo14). A more recent example of 19th century origin is depicted on 1st Edition OS mapping (1870s - 80s) at the Grade II listed Woodlands Park, now a residential home for the elderly but formerly an early to mid 19th century Italianate villa associated with formal garden and park (CCo97).
- 3.7.7 Many of the farmhouses and associated agricultural buildings in the area were built between the 17th and 19th centuries, along with occasional examples of earlier origin, but it is generally buildings within the settlements of Great Missenden (CCo53) and Little Missenden (CCo14) that comprise the majority of this period's built heritage. The majority of those buildings away from the main centres along the river valley are isolated farms and cottages, comprising a number adjacent to the land required both temporarily and permanently for the construction and operation of the Proposed Scheme on Hyde Lane, Frith Hill, King's Lane and Chesham Road. These include Hyde Farm (CCo36), Sheepcotts Cottage (CCo45), Briarwood and a Granary at Cudsden's Farm (CCo46, CCo47), 86 King's Lane (CCo48) and South Heath Farmhouse now subsumed into the small modern settlement of South Heath (CCo49), all of which are Grade II listed. Within the land required both temporarily and permanently for the construction and operation of the Proposed Scheme there are several non-designated buildings of 19th century origin which are depicted on 1st Edition OS mapping (1870s - 80s). These comprise Annie Bailey's, formerly the Barley Mow public house (CCo55), Chiltern Cottage (CCo60) and the Weights and Measures Gym (CCo61). Elsewhere in the wider study area, there is a scatter of farms and former farms comprising the Grade II listed buildings at Kennel Farm (CCo03), Lime Farm Cottage (CCo06), Bray's Farmhouse at Hyde Heath (CCo09), Hawthorn Farm (CCo25), Great Hunbridge Manor, a Grade II* building (CCo27), Bury Farm (CCo70), Rignall's Farm (o84), Rignall's (CCo85), Road Farm (CCo88), Crawley Farmhouse (CCo89), Pednor House (CCo90), Great Pednor Manor (CCo91), Hammondshall Farm (CCo94) and Cottage Farm (CCo97). These occupy land on the shoulder of the valley and the plateau, predominantly on the historically less cultivable Clay-with-Flints strata.

- 3.7.8 More recently built farms depicted from at least the 1st Edition OS maps of the late 19th century now occupy land formerly farmed either on a wider scale by some of those farms already mentioned, or by former now lost farms. These comprise Mantle's Farm (CCo18), Hyde Heath Farm on the western edge of Hyde Heath (CCo22), Chapel Farm (CCo42), Friendly Lodge Farm now called the Hyde (CCo44) and Havenfields Farm (CCo82). Other buildings of note include the Grade II listed Overstroud Cottage on Frith Hill (CCo57) and the non-designated buildings of Sheepcotts on Hyde Lane (CCo43), Orchard Cottage on Frith Hill (CCo33), King's Pond Cottage on Chesham Road (CC112), South Heath Cottage on Ballinger Road (CC114), Hyde End Hall (CC115) and Hyde End Cottage (CC116) on Chesham Road, and two semi-detached cottages at Middle Grove Farm (CC117).
- 3.7.9 Post-medieval industry is represented within the study area by a cluster of former clay pits, a brickworks, a chalk pit and chalk mine close by Middle Grove Farm and Timber Yard, Hyde End (CCo41). In addition there are the physical remains and also map and remote survey evidence of numerous former extraction pits, predominantly for clay and chalk (CCo23, CCo31, CCo95).
- 3.7.10 The extensive evidence of mis-fired pottery found in and around the gardens and fields of Potter Row which dates to the 16th and 17th centuries is thought indicative of the existence of local manufacturing sites and kilns. None, however, have yet been identified in the area.
- 3.7.11 Mills were a primary source of power through to the mid-18th century and two are recorded within the valley of the Misbourne, notable amongst these being the former medieval mill at Mill End, Little Missenden (CCo14). The Grade II listed 17th century mill house survives as a private house, having served previously as a corn mill and during the 19th century being steam driven. Further to the north documentary records indicate the location of a former windmill during the 18th and 19th century on 'Thriff' Hill (CCo56). One is depicted on Jeffreys' map of Buckinghamshire from 1788 and is named on the 1st Edition OS map of 1873. It apparently burnt down in 1876. There is a building called 'Mill House' also of 18th to 19th origin on Mill Lane, Frith Hill, which may well be the original mill house associated with the mill. The plentiful water supply also served to propagate commercial watercress beds around Little Missenden.
- 3.7.12 In terms of communications within the study area the primary route probably throughout the period would have been the London Road passing through Little Missenden along the valley floor to Great Missenden and onwards (CCo08). This was turnpiked in the later 18th century and is recorded by Jeffreys in 1751. Two milestones which may date to the occasion of the turnpiking are located along its length, two close to Little Missenden (CCo04, CCo99) and one north of Great Missenden (CCo96).

3.8 Twentieth century/modern (1901 - present)

- 3.8.1 The route of the former Aylesbury to Chorleywood railway line built by Great Central Railways in the 1880s lies within the study area passing through the Misbourne Valley close to Little Missenden and through Great Missenden onwards towards Wendover and Aylesbury (CCo05). It is depicted on 2nd Edition OS mapping circa 1900 as part of the Metropolitan Railway. The Great Central Railway was the last of the great Victorian mainline railway projects and was opened in 1899 to link London, with a

terminus at Marylebone, to Sheffield via Leicester and Nottingham. It now forms part of the Marylebone to Aylesbury Line between London and the Midlands.

- 3.8.2 The most modern heritage assets in the study area comprise an early 20th century former firing range south-east of Jays Hatch near Bray's Wood (CC002) and the site of former Second World War searchlight battery number 50612 at Hyde Heath. It was manned by the 341st Searchlight Battery under the command of the 35th Anti-Aircraft Battalion. The battery was operational by 1 January 1939 (CC016). Residential development has been quite small-scale within the study area and comprises predominantly limited expansion of residential and commercial development around Great Missenden. Villages such as Hyde Heath and South Heath and to a lesser extent Little Missenden have also expanded though on a limited scale over the last century. Elsewhere within the study area commercial development predominantly comprises modern structures associated with agriculture and communications. Modernisation of the A413 and Marylebone to Aylesbury Line are the most notable examples of the latter.

4 Built heritage

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 This section provides baseline information relating to built heritage assets within the land required both temporarily and permanently for the construction and operation of the Proposed Scheme, 500m study area and wider ZTV. A broad overview of the character and form of the settlement pattern within the study area can be found in Section 6 of this appendix. This section provides the following information:

- descriptions of all built heritage assets or asset groupings wholly or partially within the land required both temporarily and permanently for the construction and operation of the Proposed Scheme. This includes descriptions of settlements where relevant;
- descriptions of all built heritage assets or asset groupings wholly or partially within 500m of the edge of the land required both temporarily and permanently for the construction and operation of the Proposed Scheme. This includes descriptions of settlements where relevant; and
- descriptions of selected designated assets within the ZTV.

4.1.2 Further information on all these assets, plus those other designated assets which lie within the ZTV but are not described in Section 4.4 of this appendix, can be found in the Gazetteer in Volume 5: Appendix CH-002-009. The assets are shown on maps CH-01-029, CH-01-029-L1, CH-01-030, CH-01-030-L1 and CH-02-014 (Volume 5, Cultural Heritage Map Book).

4.2 Built heritage assets within the land required both temporarily and permanently for the construction and operation of the Proposed Scheme

4.2.1 The following built heritage assets or asset groupings, both designated and non-designated, lie wholly or partially within the land required both temporarily and permanently for the construction and operation of the Proposed Scheme. The assets are described from south to north.

Chapel Farm (CCo42)

4.2.2 This non-designated farm complex on Hyde Lane is recorded on 1st Edition OS mapping (1870s - 80s). The main farmhouse is set within a walled garden and appears to have an earlier core with additional wings and outhouses. On brief visual assessment the fabric of the main building appears to be of 19th century origin.

4.2.3 Most of the extant farm buildings lie outside of the land required both temporarily and permanently for the construction and operation Proposed Scheme, though some lie partially or wholly within it. There are several modern structures associated with the farmstead. These are not considered heritage assets of any value.

4.2.4 The immediate setting of these buildings comprises chiefly their grounds, yards and gardens alongside Hyde Lane, a tree-lined winding country lane. This is set within the

wider agricultural and wooded landscape of the upper shoulder of the Misbourne Valley. The asset is considered to be of some aesthetic, historical and architectural interest and forms a group of vernacular 19th and 20th century buildings that remains closely associated with its rural setting which makes a contribution to its value.

Annie Bailey's (CCo55)

- 4.2.5 The present Annie Bailey's bar is recorded as The Barley Mow public house on the 1st Edition OS mapping (1870s - 80s). A brief visual assessment of the main building appears to indicate a 19th century origin. The original early 19th century section of the building, cottage style in design, is two storeys high and three bays wide with a high pitched roof. Its original footprint was much smaller than currently, with extensions having been added to the south, east and west elevations. The original structure is still visible to the centre of these later alterations.
- 4.2.6 The asset is considered to be of some aesthetic, historical and architectural interest, derived from its character as an example of a fairly typical post-medieval vernacular cottage style building dating to the 19th century. The principal influence of setting on the value of the asset is its roadside position and secondarily its rural surrounding.
- 4.2.7 The immediate setting of the building is defined by its surrounding grounds, associated yard, gardens and landscaping and the roads it sits adjacent to, especially given its function as a roadside public house. The asset lies within a wider setting of undulating agricultural fields to the east, south and west, including stands of woodland, isolated trees and hedgerows. The principal influence of setting on the value of the asset is its roadside position and secondarily its rural surrounding.

Chiltern Cottage (CCo6o)

- 4.2.8 Chiltern Cottage is a non-designated building depicted on the 1st Edition OS mapping (1870s - 80s). A brief visual assessment of the main building showed it to be of fairly common vernacular style dating to the 19th century. The building lies fully within the land required both temporarily and permanently for the construction and operation of the Proposed Scheme on Frith Hill just west of South Heath.
- 4.2.9 The immediate setting of the cottage is defined by its surrounding grounds, associated gardens and landscaping and the road it sits adjacent to. The asset lies within a wider setting of undulating agricultural fields to the north and south, isolated stands of trees and hedgerows and the ancient woodland of Sibley's Coppice. The settlement of South Heath lies close by on its eastern side.
- 4.2.10 The asset is considered to be of some aesthetic, historical and architectural interest and its setting makes a contribution to its value.

The Weights and Measures Gym (CCo61)

- 4.2.11 The Weights and Measures Gym is recorded on 1st Edition OS mapping (1870s - 80s) and lies fully within the land required both temporarily and permanently for the construction and operation of the Proposed Scheme on Frith Hill. A brief visual assessment of the main building appears to indicate a 19th century origin. It was previously known as The Black Horse public house and is a two storey building with later 20th and 21st century alterations. The main 19th century building is three-bays

wide with a low pitched tile roof and brick chimneys to either end. The design of the main structures is fairly typical of a 19th century public house and a number of exterior features still remain such as two lantern lights either side of the original doorway. The current use of the property has resulted in a dramatic change to the layout and design of the original 19th century public house and it is anticipated that few original features remain.

4.2.12 The immediate setting of the gym is defined by its surrounding grounds, associated yard, gardens and landscaping and the road it sits adjacent to, especially given its former function as a roadside public house. The asset lies within a wider setting of undulating agricultural fields to the north and south, isolated stands of trees and hedgerows and the ancient woodland of Sibley's Coppice. The settlement of South Heath lies close by on its eastern side.

4.2.13 The asset is considered to be of some aesthetic, historical and architectural interest, representing a typical vernacular roadside building of the 19th century, though much altered subsequently. The principal influence of setting on the value of the asset is its roadside position.

4.3 Built heritage assets within 500m of the boundary of the land required both temporarily and permanently for the construction and operation of the Proposed Scheme

4.3.1 The following built heritage assets or asset groupings, both designated and non-designated, lie wholly or partially within 500m of the land required both temporarily and permanently for the construction and operation of the Proposed Scheme. The assets are described from south to north.

Kennel Farm (CC003)

4.3.2 Kennel Farm comprises a group of farm buildings, of which, the 18th century dovecote and a barn are Grade II listed. The dovecote is a large circular structure of brick, now colour-washed, but beneath this is red with a black header pattern. The building has a plain doorway small stepped cornice to later low pitched roof covered with slates and inside is a regular disposition of brick ledges and nesting boxes. The barn is timber-framed and weatherboarded with some blockwork and has an old tiled roof.

4.3.3 The asset group lies approximately 120m to the south of the land required both temporarily and permanently for the construction and operation of the Proposed Scheme at a point where the Proposed Scheme will be in a bored tunnel. It lies close to the A413 bypass and 300m to the east of Little Missenden situated primarily in rural, agricultural land and close to former watercress beds.

4.3.4 The rural setting of the asset group makes a contribution to its value. The farm and dovecote form a group of vernacular farm buildings dating from the 18th century that remain closely associated with their agricultural surroundings.

Milestone on A413 south of Keepers Lane (CC004)

4.3.5 This milestone is located on the verge of the A413 close to Little Missenden at the southern end of a lay-by just south of Keepers Lane. It is slightly angled toward the A413 in front of a high retaining wall. The top of the milestone is eroded and the

inscription, incised and black painted only reads "London 28, Amersham Parish". The asset is a fairly common example of an 18th to 19th century milestone which retains a link with the earlier road line and has some aesthetic and historical interest.

Aylesbury to Chorleywood Railway (CCo05)

- 4.3.6 The Aylesbury to Chorleywood railway line was built by Great Central Railways in the 1880s. It is depicted on 2nd Edition OS mapping (1900) as part of the Metropolitan Railway. The railway remains in service as part of the Marylebone to Aylesbury Line. Non-designated historic elements such as railway overbridges survive at intervals along its length and these, along with associated railway infrastructure are considered to be of some aesthetic, historical and architectural interest and contribute to the asset's value. Its setting comprises the rural landscape of the Misbourne Valley through which it passes, though this does not contribute to its value.

Lime Farm Cottage (CCo06)

- 4.3.7 Lime Farm Cottage was a two storey building built in 1811 - 12 and has later 19th century additions. The Grade II listed building lies just outside the Little Missenden Conservation Area at Lime Farm on the north side of the A413 approximately 250m to the west of the land required both temporarily and permanently for the construction and operation of the Proposed Scheme.
- 4.3.8 It was built originally of flint with quoined brick dressings and late 19th century additions of brick in Flemish bond, with plain tile roofs and corniced brick stacks. Originally the building was L-shaped with a slightly later addition filling the angle and forming a square plan. It has an attic to the front range and comprises two bays. The building has a late 19th century side out-shut to the right side and added rear out-shuts. Evidence from the Land Tax Returns and the Estate Accounts indicate that the house was built 1811-12, while the 1843 Tithe map shows its square plan. Originally there was a larger house almost attached to the north-west corner (this has now gone but its footings remain).
- 4.3.9 The buildings lie very close to the A413 bypass just to the south and also the Aylesbury to Chorleywood railway line serving Chiltern Railways. The wider surroundings comprise primarily agricultural land. Given the proximity to these routes the building's setting is relatively peaceful within the wider rural, agricultural landscape. The rural, agricultural setting of this asset makes a contribution to its value. The 19th century farm is of a typical vernacular style and remains closely associated with the former buildings of Lime Farm and its agricultural surroundings.

Listed buildings in Hyde Heath (CCo09)

- 4.3.10 Hyde Heath is a village of post-medieval origin to the north-east of the Proposed Scheme (see also CCo22). There are three Grade II listed buildings dispersed around the village on its north-eastern and north-western edges. Only one of these lies within 500m of the land required both temporarily and permanently for the construction and operation of the Proposed Scheme. Number 7, The Green is a former pair of 18th century cottages that now serves as a single house. It is built of rubble flint with red brick quoins and dressings and has a hipped old tile roof with central chimney dentil brick eaves. There is also a single storey outbuilding on each side.

- 4.3.11 The building is situated on the periphery of the village among other residential buildings of more recent date. Hyde Heath common lies adjacent on its west side and the building has views towards it. More distant views to the west are obscured by the tree-lined boundary on the western edge of Hyde Heath common which also marks the edge of Hydehouse Plantation. Set within this village context the asset is not particularly isolated though it is fairly peaceful.
- 4.3.12 The asset is typical of the vernacular cottage dwellings in the Chilterns built throughout the 18th and 19th centuries and its rural setting makes a contribution to its value as one of the earliest surviving buildings in Hyde Heath.

Little Missenden (CCo14)

- 4.3.13 Little Missenden is a small settlement at the southern end of the study area. The village lies within the Chiltern District and the Chiltern Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). It includes a conservation area, much of which lies within 500m of the land required both temporarily and permanently for the construction and operation of the Proposed Scheme and at its closest about 230m from it. This conservation area encompasses the historic core of the village.
- 4.3.14 Little Missenden encompassed by the conservation area is situated in the shallow Misbourne Valley just south of the A413 midway between Amersham and Great Missenden. The main village street is the old route of the London Road, the line of which was altered earlier in the 20th century to its present position to bypass the village. The village was originally in two distinct parts along the original road, the main part of the village with the Parish Church of St John the Baptist and Manor House at the western end and Mill End with the corn mill and cottages at the eastern end. More recent development has had the effect of joining the two parts together though some open areas remain.
- 4.3.15 In the centre of the village a crossroads is formed by Highmore Cottages, which runs east to west, and Beamond End Lane, which leads south to Penfold Lane and out of the village. This crossroads with the church, old Vicarage and Manor House and attractive treescape setting forms the central core of the village.
- 4.3.16 The village contains many attractive buildings and of these the church is Grade I listed, with a further 32 houses, cottages and associated built elements Grade II listed. The great majority of these and other buildings in the village are built mainly of red brick or flint with some half-timbered cottages. Roofs are principally of red-brown clay tiles. Elsewhere within the village there is widespread use of flint and brick walls set among occasional timber agricultural buildings. In the centre of the village there are tall yew hedges associated with the church.
- 4.3.17 The heritage value of the village, its conservation area, and the assets within it, comprises primarily the well preserved and attractive groups of vernacular buildings, dating predominantly between the 17th and 19th centuries. There are several earlier buildings, dating to the 16th century, as well as the Parish Church of St John the Baptist, which may have a 10th century origin. The village core lies towards the western end of the village at the crossroads and has the larger group of listed buildings, of high and moderate value. There are good views out across the river and

water meadows to the north, and further to the woodland crested hills both towards the north-east, north and north-west.

- 4.3.18 The landscape setting of the village makes a contribution to its value. The village is set back from the busy A413 and though noise from the road is apparent this gives the village a peaceful feel. The core of the village in particular is relatively inward-looking, set around the crossroads. Due to the bends in the main street at this point either the Manor House or the cottages opposite successfully close the view from every approach. Views outwards to the north across the river valley and to rising ground past the A413 to the ancient woodlands of Bray's Wood and Weedonhill Wood / High Spring / Ostler's Wood contribute to its rural sense of the place and are part of its wider rural setting.

Mantle's Farm (CCo18)

- 4.3.19 Mantle's Farm just off Chalk Lane is recorded on the Little Missenden Tithe map (1845) and 1st Edition OS mapping (1870s - 80s). A brief visual assessment of the main building and surrounding outbuildings appears to indicate a 19th century origin.
- 4.3.20 Records of the reputed medieval Mantell's Manor held in 1086 by Turstin Mantel no doubt have an etymological association with the existing Mantle's Farm but there is no other evidence to link the two. There is, however, on the basis of the etymological link a very limited potential for the survival of elements of a former medieval manor in the form of buried archaeological remains or re-used stonework.
- 4.3.21 The existing farm buildings represent a typical Chilterns farmstead established at or post Enclosure. Mantle's Farm and its surrounding farm buildings, yards and gardens form a vernacular farming complex dating from at least the 19th century. It remains closely associated with its agricultural surroundings such that its wider rural, agricultural setting and proximity to Mantle's Wood ancient woodland makes a contribution to its value.

Hyde Heath (CCo22)

- 4.3.22 Hyde Heath is a small village on the upper eastern flank of the Misbourne Valley just as it reaches the plateau. Predominantly the settlement is of post-medieval origin with the majority of buildings of 20th century origin. It is linked by Hyde Heath Lane, Keepers Lane, Chalk Lane and Weedon Hill to Little Missenden in the south and to Chesham to the north. There are several buildings of 19th century origin close to the present day village green on the north-west side of the modern settlement and another focus just north-east of Hyde Heath Farm. The village green itself is of very recent origin, having previously been an area of scrub and gorse. In fact it appears more as rough ground on the 1st Edition OS mapping (1870s - 80s). The two focal areas do, however, comprise the earliest parts of the village.
- 4.3.23 There are also three Grade II listed buildings distributed around the village (CCo09). One of these, Weedon Hill Cottages lies close to Weedon Hill Farm, an isolated farmstead in the 19th century but now at the eastern edge of the modern village. The three Grade II listed buildings, Hyde Heath Farm, which is depicted on the Little Missenden Tithe map (1845), a small number of cottages, the Plough pubic house and a Baptist chapel are all depicted on 1st Edition OS maps (1870s - 80s). The existing

farm buildings at Hyde Heath Farm and those at Weedon Hill Farm are likely to represent farmsteads established at or post Enclosure. The cottages are typical of the vernacular style and are commonly of brick and flint. This asset group is considered to be of some aesthetic, historical and architectural interest.

- 4.3.24 The settlement's immediate setting comprises the modern farm complexes on the eastern and western edges of the village and the modern village green with its surrounding cottages, public house and other buildings. The surrounding rural, agricultural landscape along with woodlands to the north, south and north-west makes a contribution to the settlement's value.

Hyde House (CCo26)

- 4.3.25 This asset group on Chesham Road comprises the early 18th century Hyde House, which has early 19th century additions along with a probable 18th century granary dovecote. Both are Grade II listed. Hyde House lies approximately 550m to the north-west of Hyde Heath and approximately 350 – 450m from the land required both temporarily and permanently for the construction and operation of the Proposed Scheme. The main building is a small two storey country house of the period comprising six bays with a slate roof. There is a service wing on the left side dated 1929 which is roughcast and gabled and linked to an 18th century flint and brick cottage and stable wing. This has 19th century cast iron stalls and partitions internally. The granary now serves as a summerhouse. It is of probable 18th century origin and comprises a small square timber-framed building raised on staddle stones. It is part brick infill and part modern weatherboarding with a pyramidal roof of old tiles and a gabled dovecote with six entry holes on the south side. There is also evidence on 19th century mapping of garden features including a lodge, ha-ha and woodland in the grounds of Hyde House.
- 4.3.26 The buildings and gardens are isolated and peaceful surrounded on the east, south and west sides by woodland associated with Hydehouse Plantation. The main house is accessed from the north where a driveway joins Chesham Road. This would be the only noticeable source of traffic noise in an otherwise peaceful and rural setting. This setting makes a contribution to the asset group's value as a good example of a rural large private country residence of the 18th to 19th century.

Wick Cottage and Littlewood Place, Little Wood Corner (CC113)

- 4.3.27 These are neighbouring detached residential buildings to the east of South Heath on Wood Lane both of which are depicted on 1st Edition mapping (1870s-1880s). A brief visual assessment of these properties indicates they are typical vernacular red brick buildings with tiled roofs, probably dating to the later 19th century. Both appear to have been altered and extended of subsequent years and are not aligned precisely now to the examples depicted on 1st Edition mapping. The buildings' immediate setting comprises their surrounding gardens and quiet roadside position. They are situated on the upper eastern flank of the Misbourne Valley on relatively flat lying ground close to plateau, on the south side of Wood Lane. Views from the rear of the buildings to the south and west are partially obscured by intervening tree-lined field boundaries and isolated stands of trees. There are also partial views to the north and east from the frontages. The asset group is considered to be of some aesthetic,

historical and architectural interest and its broadly rural setting makes a contribution to its value.

Orchard Cottage (CCo33)

- 4.3.28 Orchard Cottage on Frith Hill is a non-designated building depicted on the 1st Edition OS mapping (1870s - 80s). A brief visual assessment showed it to be of fairly common vernacular style dating to the early to mid-19th century with later additions to the rear. The property has two storeys and is three bays wide to the front elevation. This elevation has a central entrance porch with a high pitched roof tile roof with a single brick chimney to one side, and appears to have been rendered and pebbledashed to the exterior.
- 4.3.29 The immediate setting of the cottage is defined by its surrounding grounds, associated gardens and landscaping and the road it sits adjacent to. It lies within a wider setting of undulating agricultural fields to the north and south, though views to the north and east are screened by a stand of trees and views to the south and west by intervening hedgerows on field boundaries and the roadside verges. The principal influence of setting on the value of the asset is its associated gardens and secondarily its rural, roadside surrounding. It represents a typical vernacular roadside building of the 19th century and is considered to be of some aesthetic, historical and architectural interest.

Hyde Farm (CCo36)

- 4.3.30 Hyde Farmhouse is a Grade II listed building of probable 16th century origin. It is a four-bay timber-framed building cased in brick and flint with painted rendering in the 18th and 19th centuries. It has a half hipped tiled roof with central brick stack, is of two storeys, with three windows comprising two and three-light wooden casements. It has a projecting 19th century brick porch and at the rear is a brick stair turret with casement window, which is probably of 17th century origin. There is also a modern wing at the rear and an extension at the east end. The barns and outhouses at the farmhouse are also Grade II listed and of 18th century origin, forming a courtyard on the north side of the farmyard.
- 4.3.31 The immediate setting of the asset comprises chiefly the buildings' grounds, yards and gardens along the quiet, tree-lined Hyde Lane. This rural, agricultural setting makes a contribution to the farm complex's value as a group of vernacular farm buildings, dating in part to the 16th century but predominantly to the 18th century that is closely associated with its agricultural surroundings.

Sheepcotts (CCo43)

- 4.3.32 Sheepcotts is a large house on Hyde Lane the core of which is recorded on 1st Edition OS mapping (1870s - 80s). A brief visual assessment of the main building, built predominantly of red brick with a tiled roof and large stacks appears to be of 19th century origin. This large building is surrounded by extensive gardens and bounded at the Hyde Lane frontage by an impressive flint and brick wall.
- 4.3.33 The building represents a large vernacular dwelling of the 19th century. Its immediate setting comprises its extensive gardens, set on the quiet, tree-lined rural Hyde Lane. It

lies on the south side of Hyde Lane and has partial and some open views of fields and woodland to the south and south-east; there are also partial views to the north. This rural, agricultural setting makes a contribution to its value. Sheepcotts is considered to be of some aesthetic, historical and architectural interest.

King's Pond Cottage (CC112)

- 4.3.34 Kings Pond Cottage on Chesham Road, Hyde End is depicted on 1st Edition OS mapping (1870s-80s). The cottage is believed to be a small white rendered 19th century vernacular cottage with a slate roof, extended and altered during the 20th century. The cottage's immediate setting comprises its surrounding gardens and roadside position. It is situated on the upper flank of the Misbourne Valley on relatively flat lying ground close to plateau, on the south side of the road. Views from the cottage to the south and west are partially obscured by intervening tree-lined field boundaries and isolated stands of trees. There are also partial views to the north and east. The asset is considered to be of some aesthetic, historical and architectural interest and its broadly rural setting makes a contribution to its value.

South Heath Cottage (CC114)

- 4.3.35 South Heath Cottage on Ballinger Road, South Heath is depicted on 1st Edition OS mapping (1870s-1880s). The cottage, now called Holly Cottage is a quite large white rendered 19th century vernacular cottage with a red tiled roof, extended and altered during the 20th century. It does not appear to be aligned precisely now to the examples depicted on 1st Edition mapping. The building's immediate setting comprises its surrounding gardens and quiet roadside position. It is situated on the upper eastern flank of the Misbourne Valley on relatively flat lying ground close to plateau, on the south side of Ballinger Road. Views from the rear of the building to the south and west are obscured by intervening hedgerows, property boundaries and the surrounding residential properties of South Heath. There are partial views to the north and east from the frontage, though these too are restricted by surrounding residential development. The asset is considered to be of some aesthetic, historical and architectural interest and its rural village setting makes a limited contribution to its value.

Hyde End Hall (CC115)

- 4.3.36 Hyde End Hall on Chesham Road, Hyde End is a large house situate to the south of South Heath, depicted on 1st Edition OS mapping (1870s-1880s). A brief visual assessment of the property shows it to be a white rendered and apparently timber-frame and brick-built building with a tiled roof. The core of the building appears to be of 19th century origin though much extended and altered over subsequent years. The building's immediate setting comprises its surrounding gardens and relatively busy roadside position. It is situated on the upper eastern flank of the Misbourne Valley on relatively flat lying ground close to plateau, on the south side of Chesham Road. Views from the rear of the building to the south and west are broadly open and rural, looking across fields, and only partially obscured by intervening tree-lined hedgerows and isolated stands of trees. There are views to the north and east from the frontage, though these too are restricted by tree-lined roadside hedgerows and field boundaries. The asset is considered to be of some aesthetic, historical and

architectural interest and its rural roadside setting makes a limited contribution to its value.

Hyde Heath Cottage (CC116)

- 4.3.37 Hyde Heath Cottage on Chesham Road, Hyde End is a quite large cottage situate to the north-west of Hyde Heath, depicted on 1st Edition OS mapping (1870s-1880s). A brief visual assessment of the property now called High Firs shows it to be a red brick building with a red tiled roof. The core of the building appears to be of 19th century origin though much extended over subsequent years. The building's immediate setting comprises its surrounding gardens and relatively busy roadside position. It is situated on the upper eastern flank of the Misbourne Valley on relatively flat lying ground close to plateau, on the north side of Chesham Road. The building is orientated toward Chesham Road and views toward it to the south and east are obscured by the property's mature tree-lined roadside boundary. Views to the west of open agricultural fields are also restricted by the property's mature tree-lined boundary. There are partial views to the north from the rear of the building toward Middle Grove Farm and surrounding agricultural land, though these too are partially restricted by tree-lined boundaries. The asset is considered to be of some aesthetic, historical and architectural interest and its rural roadside setting makes a limited contribution to its value.

Cottages at Middle Grove Farm (CC117)

- 4.3.38 A pair of semi-detached cottages just to the north of Chesham Road is depicted on 1st Edition OS mapping (1870s-1880s) to the south of the present day Middle Grove Farm. The farm complex itself is not depicted and the two cottages are not named on either the 1st Edition or more recent mapping. A brief visual assessment of the cottages shows them to be of red brick and white roughcast render with a red tiled roof. The core of the building appears to be of 19th century origin though has been extended on its northern side over subsequent years. The cottages are orientated toward Chesham Road and views toward it to the south and east are obscured by intervening stands of trees. Views to the west of agricultural fields are broadly open, only partially restricted by intervening tree-lined field boundaries. Views to the north are dominated by the large modern outbuildings of Middle Grove Farm with surrounding agricultural land only partially visible. The asset is considered to be of some aesthetic, historical and architectural interest and its rural setting makes a limited contribution to its value.

Friendly Lodge Farm (CCo44)

- 4.3.39 The former Friendly Lodge Farm now called The Hyde lies to the south of Chesham Road and west of Hyde Lane. It is depicted on 1st Edition OS mapping (1870s - 80s) and is probably of 19th century origin. The building has partial and some open views of fields and woodland to the south and south-east. There are also partial views to the north, east and west though these are mostly screened by stands of trees.
- 4.3.40 The existing farm buildings represent a vernacular farmstead established at or post Enclosure. Its immediate setting comprises the modern and former farm buildings, yards and gardens within the wider rural, agricultural landscape. This rural, agricultural setting makes a contribution to its value. The asset is considered to be of some aesthetic, historical and architectural interest.

Sheepcotts Cottage (CCo45)

- 4.3.41 Sheepcotts Cottage is a Grade II listed 17th century timber-framed building encased in early 19th century chequer brick, flint and tile hanging with a tiled roof. The cottage is of one storey comprising two bays length with an attic space. The front elevation of the original cottage has chequer brick walls and red tile hanging to the upper part of the elevation added during the 20th century. These features add to the picturesque character of the property. On the ground floor there are three four-pane casement windows located under glazed brick arches. The central window is slimmer than the others and is situated in the opening for the original doorway to the property. In the attic space there are two gabled dormer windows and a central modern hipped dormer window. This elevation has been extended to the west with an extension built onto the end of the property. This is a modern single storey, timber clad lean-to with a low pitched roof. Above this extension on the west elevation the tile hanging decoration seen on the front of the cottage is continued. The east elevation of the cottage is dressed in flint with a prominent offset brick chimney stack and notable concrete repairs to the upper part of the elevation.
- 4.3.42 The cottage's setting on the quiet, tree-lined Hyde Lane, within the wider rural and agricultural landscape makes a contribution to its value which primarily derives from its 17th century origin and typical vernacular style.

Briarwood (CCo46)

- 4.3.43 Briarwood is a Grade II listed building formerly known as Cudsden Cottage. It is a 17th century timber-framed building cased in brick, rendered and colour-washed. It has an old tile roof is of two storeys and has modern leaded casements. The building has a three-room plan with large central stack and a blocked door to the original entrance lobby against the stack.
- 4.3.44 The asset's value is primarily derived from its 17th century origin and typical vernacular style, although its setting within the wider rural and agricultural landscape makes a contribution to this value. Traffic along the Chesham Road somewhat detracts from the rural quality of the building's setting.

Granary at Cudsden's Farm (CCo47)

- 4.3.45 The Granary at Cudsden's Farm on Chesham Road is a Grade II listed 18th century timber-framed building, weatherboarded and with a pyramidal roof of old tiles, set on staddles, some stone, others iron.
- 4.3.46 The asset's value is primarily derived from its 18th century origin and typical vernacular style, although its setting within the wider rural and agricultural landscape makes a contribution to this value. Traffic along the Chesham Road somewhat detracts from the rural quality of the building's setting.

86 King's Lane (CCo48)

- 4.3.47 Woodside Cottage at 86 King's Lane is a Grade II listed cottage of 17th century origin. The structure has timber-framing in the original rear wall and cross walls with and a large chimney stack and lobby entry of the same date. The original cottage has two storeys and can be described as having a baffle-entry plan (where a door-less lobby is created by the presence of a chimney stack).

- 4.3.48 The structure was altered in the early-mid 19th century with the walls of the front elevation being rebuilt in brick and the gable ends in flint. A large amount of unsympathetic work was carried out on the property in the 1950s including an external coating of concrete and pebbledash, replacement of windows with metal casements and a two storey extension to the rear. These 20th century alterations are of no special historical interest and in some cases more recent 21st century works have sought to remedy the alterations. This has included the removal of the concrete and pebble dash from the exterior of the property, replacement of the metal window casements with wooden ones and the partial removal of the 1950s extensions. A further two storey extension has been added to the rear as a porch over the main door of the front elevation, yet this time constructed with appropriate materials and finish. All of this has helped to reinstate the historic character of the property.
- 4.3.49 The asset is an example of a 17th century cottage in the vernacular style, altered in the 19th and 20th centuries but retaining much of its earlier core. Its setting on King's Lane within the wider rural and agricultural landscape also makes a contribution to its value.

South Heath Farmhouse (CCo49)

- 4.3.50 The Grade II listed South Heath Farmhouse with attached barn is a 17th century two storey timber-framed building on King's Lane which is cased in 18th century brick, rendered and painted, with an old tile roof and central brick stack. It has a central door with open tiled porch, three-light casement to each side with two similar windows to the first floor, tucked under the eaves. At the back there is some exposed timber-framing and a modern wing. The barn attached to the north end may be of 18th century origin and is timber-framed and weatherboarded with a corrugated iron roof.
- 4.3.51 The asset's setting on King's Lane within the wider rural and agricultural landscape makes a contribution to its value as a small former farm building and barn of 17th century origin which retains a number of original features associated with its agricultural origin.

Great Missenden (CCo53)

- 4.3.52 Great Missenden's historic core lies approximately 800m from the land required both temporarily and permanently for the construction and operation of the Proposed Scheme, though the edges of the conservation area boundary which defines it lies at its closest about 200m away. The conservation area was designated in two stages. These are well-defined. The first and earliest of the designations is Great Missenden town's historic core, designated in 1969. The second, an extension to the first is of Missenden Abbey, added to the designation in 1992. These have been considered separately throughout the assessment for the purposes of measuring potential impact on the assets by the Proposed Scheme. Missenden Abbey is therefore discussed separately below (CCo51).
- 4.3.53 Great Missenden lies within the Chiltern District and the Chiltern Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and is situated within the Chiltern Hills in the valley floor of the River Misbourne with the source of the river a short distance to the north of the town.

- 4.3.54 The town is a planned linear settlement formed along the original main road between London and Aylesbury, though it is now bypassed to the east by the modern A413. Missenden Abbey is located away from the core to the east of the town. Unusually the Church of St Peter and Paul is located some distance from the heart of the town within the grounds of Missenden Abbey. The former main London Road passed through the town. This was one of the main routes through the Chilterns and was turnpiked in 1751. A secondary route crosses the town on an east – west alignment linking Chesham with Wycombe. The Metropolitan Railway Company extended their line to Aylesbury through Great Missenden at the end of the 19th century.
- 4.3.55 Within the historic core of the town, and the original designated conservation area there are four Grade II* listed buildings and 42 Grade II listed buildings. Several of these buildings date to the medieval period, from the 15th century onwards, whilst many of the remainder are of 17th and 18th century date and a few more of 19th century date. The majority are built in the vernacular style, of handmade red brick with some cement rendering and half-timbering. Brick and flint are also evident, particularly in the walls around the town. Roofs are mostly all pitched with brown clay tiles or slate.
- 4.3.56 The pre-20th century historic landscape surrounding the town was characterised by a dispersed settlement pattern with commons, ancient woodlands and irregularly-shaped hedged fields of pre 18th century origin. A thin strip of meadow ran along the valley floor. The modern landscape has undergone some alteration with significant areas of modern settlement west of the town and to the south too. Missenden Abbey is now an adult learning centre.
- 4.3.57 The value of the historic core of the town, of the conservation area and the assets within it, is considered to lie primarily in the concentration of historic buildings dating to the medieval and post-medieval periods set along the High Street and Church Street to the east. Both streets are narrow, winding and intimate in scale and a strong feeling of enclosure is experienced, enhanced by the glimpses of open country through gaps in the built fabric of the street frontages. The transition from rural country to townscape is immediate, particularly at the northern and southern ends of the High Street. At the southern end also the northern edge of Missenden Abbey RPG lies within the Great Missenden Conservation area boundary.
- 4.3.58 The landscape setting of the town makes a contribution to the settlement's value. Great Missenden is set back from the busy A413 bypass, though the High Street too is busy with local traffic and traffic passing through from east to west. The principal influence of setting on the value of these buildings is that they are collectively part of a cohesive settlement which has a close historic relationship with Missenden Abbey. The Misbourne Valley forms part of the wider setting of the settlement and places it and the heritage assets encompassed by it in a recognisable linear settlement context set within a wider rural agricultural and wooded landscape. The valley slopes steeply upwards towards the east and in places on the eastern edge of the town there are views of open fields, Frith Hill and Chalkdell Wood across the A413.

Mill House (CCo56)

- 4.3.59 This building lies on Mill Lane, just off Frith Hill approximately 300m to the west of land required both temporarily and permanently for the construction and operation of the Proposed Scheme. It is recorded on 1st Edition OS mapping (1870s - 1880s). An earlier corn mill is thought to have burnt down in 1876, which may have been associated with the house. It is thought to have been located south-east of the mill site. Buckinghamshire HER records it as a small 18th to early 19th century building subsequently much altered and enlarged. Jeffreys' Map of Buckinghamshire (1788) records the site of a corn mill and house to its south.
- 4.3.60 The Mill House is now a private residence and is not associated with a surviving mill, though the former mill site is of archaeological interest. It is located on the lower eastern slope of the Misbourne Valley and has broadly open views eastwards towards Sibley's Coppice and north and north-eastwards towards Frith Hill. Views south and westwards are obscured by intervening stands of trees and field boundaries. The asset's rural setting contributes somewhat to its value, though its primary value lies in its survival as an 18th to 19th century cottage, though much altered.

Overstroud Cottage (CCo57)

- 4.3.61 The Grade II listed Overstroud Cottage is an early 19th century two storey "Gothic" style building with colour-washed rendering and a slate roof on Frith Hill, Great Missenden. It has a central doorway with four-centred arch and ogee drip-mould. There is a wing set back on the right side with one similar window to the first floor and a single storey wing on the left side. The asset lies approximately 500m to the west of the land required both temporarily and permanently for the construction and operation of the Proposed Scheme.
- 4.3.62 The asset's immediate setting comprises the densely wooded valley side on Frith Hill which slopes steeply to the west towards Great Missenden and rises slightly to the crest of the valley side to the east. The woods are part of Chalkdell Wood, but are not part of Missenden Abbey RPG. The building's wider setting comprises the surrounding extent of Chalkdell Wood to the south and a mix of woodland and open pasture along the valley side to the east and north. This wooded setting contributes to the cottage's value as an example of an early 19th century rural cottage of quite untypical design.

Bury Farm (CCo70)

- 4.3.63 This asset group comprises four Grade II listed farm buildings at Bury Farm. The principal building is Bury Farmhouse which is of late 17th century origin but has subsequently been altered. It is a two storey building of red brick with some grey headers. The gable walls are rendered and painted and carried on to the front wall as quoins. The building has an old tiled roof half hipped with a large central brick stack with recessed panel and corbelled capping. There are two modern hipped dormers and plaster coved cornice. In addition there is a modern rear wing in "Tudor" style. The remaining buildings in the group are a granary, a large barn and a small barn. The large barn is an 18th century timber-framed building of brick and weatherboarded walls. It has an old tile roof, two gabled cart entrances and a lean-to on the yard side. It comprises seven bays and jowelled posts with curved braces to the tie beams which carry curved principals supporting two sets of purlins. The granary is a small square

building of 18th century origin in timber-frame with a tiled pyramidal roof. It is underbuilt in brick with piers representing staddles. There is a brick infill panel and a modern window and chimney at the rear. The smaller barn is also of 18th century origin. It is timber-framed with brick and weatherboarding, a tiled roof, cart entrance and curved braces to the tie beams. The kingpost roof is not original. These latter two buildings are included for group value.

- 4.3.64 The wider setting comprises slightly rolling agricultural farmland interspersed with patches of woodland, hedgerows and isolated trees. The surrounding agricultural land and woods in the wider vicinity places them within what is today a recognisable rural, agricultural context.
- 4.3.65 The value of the asset is considered to lie primarily in the farm complex's relationship and interaction as a group of vernacular farm buildings dating from the 17th and 18th centuries. Their immediate setting comprises the buildings, yards and gardens of the farm along with the rolling agricultural land rising to the west and Jenkin's Wood on its north-western edge. This asset group is closely associated with its agricultural surroundings and this setting contributes to its value.

Hillcroft (CCo75)

- 4.3.66 Hillcroft is a large house located at the southern edge of Potter Row and is depicted on 1st Edition OS mapping (1870s - 80s). A brief visual assessment of the property, a red brick and rendered building with a tiled roof, suggests it is of 19th century origin.
- 4.3.67 The building represents a large vernacular residential dwelling of the 19th century. Its immediate setting comprises its extensive gardens and outbuildings, set on the quiet, tree-lined Potter Row. It lies on the north-east side of the road and has predominantly open views of fields and Jenkins Wood ancient woodland to the south and south-west; there are also views to the north and east. The asset is considered to be of some aesthetic, historical and architectural interest and its rural, agricultural setting makes a contribution to its value.

Park Farm (CCo78)

- 4.3.68 Park Farm just off Potter Row is recorded on 1st Edition OS mapping (1870s - 80s). A brief visual assessment suggests the much of the complex on the southern side and outbuildings to the north-east date to the 19th century. Originally there had been a small brick and flint dwelling on the site first constructed around 1600 with a further extension in 1690⁵⁴. The roof originally had dormer windows to provide accommodation for workers on the third floor of the house.
- 4.3.69 The existing farm buildings associated with the earlier house represent a vernacular farmstead established at or post Enclosure. Its immediate setting comprises the modern and former farm buildings, yards and gardens within the wider rural, agricultural landscape. It lies south of Potter Row and is partially screened from the surrounding landscape by intervening tree-lined field boundaries to the south and west and by Jenkins Wood ancient woodland to the south. There are also partial views to the north and east. The asset is considered to be of some aesthetic, historical and

⁵⁴ Edwards, Y., (2011), *Potter Row, Great Missenden / July 2011*, Buckinghamshire Archaeological Society, Report No. BAS/ 2011-04.

architectural interest and its rural, agricultural setting makes a contribution to its value.

Springfield Farm (CCo79)

4.3.70 Springfield Farm on Potter Row is depicted on 1st Edition OS mapping (1870s - 80s). A brief visual assessment of the main building on the northern side of the complex indicates a 19th century origin.

4.3.71 The existing farm buildings represent a vernacular farmstead established at or post Enclosure. Its immediate setting comprises the modern and former farm buildings, yards and gardens within the wider rural, agricultural landscape. It lies on the eastern side of Potter Row and is partially screened from the surrounding landscape by intervening tree-lined field boundaries to the south and west; there are also views to the north and east. The asset is considered to be of some aesthetic, historical and architectural interest and its rural, agricultural setting makes a contribution to its value.

Havenfields (CCo82)

4.3.72 Havenfields off the main A413 is depicted on the Great Missenden Tithe map (1843) and 1st Edition OS mapping (1870s - 80s). A brief visual assessment of the farm complex indicates a 19th century origin. The complex was formerly called Havenfields Lodge and is depicted with a long tree-lined driveway from the A413 to the main house. It also had extensive gardens and orchards, also depicted on 19th century mapping.

4.3.73 The existing buildings represent a large vernacular residence and farmstead, established at or post Enclosure. Its immediate setting comprises the modern and former house and farm buildings, yards and gardens within the wider rural, agricultural landscape. It lies on the eastern side of the A413 just north-east of Great Missenden to which views are partially screened by intervening tree-lined field boundaries. Views of the surrounding landscape to the north and east are screened by intervening thick tree-lined field boundaries and by Havenfield Wood ancient woodland. The asset is considered to be of some aesthetic, historical and architectural interest and its rural, agricultural setting makes a contribution to its value.

Hammondshall Farm (CCo94)

4.3.74 Hammondshall Farmhouse is a Grade II listed building at the north end of Potter Row. It probably dates to the early 17th century and is a two storey timber-framed building, cased in brick and some flint in the 18th or 19th century. It has tile hanging to the upper part of the front elevation with an old tile roof, half hipped at the south end. There is a large central brick stack. A later brick section has been added at the north end, also with a hipped roof and a small rear wing of early date. To the interior there are original exposed timbers, curved windbraces in the roof and a large stack with an inglenook in the south room.

4.3.75 The asset is typical of a vernacular farm complex of the 17th and 18th centuries and its immediate setting is defined by its surrounding non-designated buildings, associated yards, gardens and landscaping. They lie within a wider setting of rolling hills on the

Chiltern plateau, agricultural fields, stands of woodland, isolated trees and hedgerows. The farm is bordered to the north by Leather Lane, to the east by Potter Row and to the south and west by open fields. Tree-lined hedgerows along Leather Lane, Potter Row and the track to the south which links Potter Row with the A413 obscure more extensive views of the wider setting. This rural farm is closely associated with the agricultural surroundings and this contributes to its value.

Milestone beside A413 north of Great Missenden (096)

- 4.3.76 This milestone is located on the verge of the A413, just north of Great Missenden. It is a squared stone pillar 52cm – 60cm high with a chamfered top and has an incised and painted inscription reading "London 32, Missenden 1". The asset is a fairly common example of an 18th to 19th century milestone which retains a link with the earlier road line and is considered to be of some aesthetic and historic interest. Its roadside setting contributes to its value.

Cottage Farm and Woodlands Park (CC097)

- 4.3.77 The two Grade II listed buildings, a stable block at Cottage Farm and Woodlands Park are both of 19th century origin and lie in close proximity to the scheduled monument of Grim's Ditch. The stable block at Cottage Farm dates to 1872. It is brick built with highly ornamental moulded work to the door and window arches, eaves and first floor band. It has a tiled roof with a band of fish-scale tiles and a wooden louvre on the ridge left of centre with a steep tiled turret roof that has iron finials to each end. It is a one storey building with a two storey tower to the left of centre with a conical roof and pigeon loft in moulded brick eaves. The right hand gable has a large herringbone brick panel with a stepped head, triple attic vents with shaped ends above and an arched window below.
- 4.3.78 Woodlands Park on Aylesbury Road is now a residential home but was originally built as an early to mid 19th century large Italianate villa associated with a formal garden and park. The two storey building has painted stucco and a slate roof. The garden front has two full height semi-circular bays each side of the centre with conical roofs and three sash windows each, the upper ones with glazing bars. The gabled wing on the right side has a three storey tower on the left with two round-headed openings to the top storey and a pyramidal roof.
- 4.3.79 Cottage Farm is an example of the prevailing vernacular style, whilst Woodlands Park is more unusual, having been themed in the style of an Italianate villa. Their setting is closely associated with Grim's Ditch scheduled monument as well as surrounding buildings, associated gardens and landscaping. The buildings are situated on the west-facing slope of the Misbourne Valley with views toward the A413 as well as open fields to all points, stands of woodland, isolated trees and hedgerows which break up the views but provide an appreciable, rural context. This rural, agricultural setting contributes to their value.

Beeway Cottage (CC102)

- 4.3.80 Beeway Cottage, Potter Row is a basic farm labourer's cottage. It is depicted on the 1st Edition OS map (1870s - 80s). A brief visual assessment indicates a brick and flint building with a tiled roof of 19th century origin. It is thought to have been built by

unskilled workmen and may have no foundations and is now divided into two dwellings⁵⁵.

- 4.3.81 Beeway Cottage's immediate setting comprises its gardens and outbuildings, set on the quiet, tree-lined Potter Row. It lies on the north-east side of the road and has partial views to the south and west which are predominantly screened by tree-lined field boundaries, stands of trees and intervening buildings. There are also partial views to the north and east. The asset is considered to be of some aesthetic, historical and architectural interest and its rural, agricultural setting makes a contribution to its value.

The Firs (CC103)

- 4.3.82 The Firs, a large red brick house with a slate roof on Potter Row, is a 19th century house commissioned by water colour artist William Callow (1812 to 1908) and built by the architect Augustus Frere. It was completed in 1860 and is depicted on the 1st Edition OS map (1870s - 80s). The Firs is considered an example of high Victorian architecture⁵⁶.
- 4.3.83 The Firs' immediate setting comprises its quite extensive gardens and outbuildings. It lies on the north-east side of the road and has partial views to the south and west which are predominantly screened by tree-lined field boundaries, stands of trees and intervening buildings. There are also partial views to the north and east. This peaceful rural, agricultural setting makes a contribution to its value.

Hedgesparrow Cottage (CC104)

- 4.3.84 Hedgesparrow Cottage on Potter Row is depicted on 1st Edition OS mapping (1870s - 80s). A brief visual assessment indicates a quite large white rendered building with a slate roof of probable 19th century origin. It has a more recent extension on its northern side.
- 4.3.85 The cottage's immediate setting comprises its surrounding gardens. It lies on the north-east side of the road and has partial views to the south and west which are predominantly screened by tree-lined field boundaries, isolated stands of trees and intervening buildings. There are also partial, though more extensive views to the north and east. The asset is considered to be of some aesthetic, historical and architectural interest and its rural, agricultural setting makes a contribution to its value.

The Lamb (CC105)

- 4.3.86 The Lamb on Potter Row, formerly the Bleeding Lamb public house, is depicted on 1st Edition OS mapping (1870s - 80s). A brief visual assessment indicates a brick and flint building with a slate roof of 19th century origin.
- 4.3.87 The Lamb's immediate setting comprises its gardens and outbuildings, and as a former public house, its roadside location on the quiet, tree-lined Potter Row. It lies on the north-east side of the road and has partial views to the south and west which are predominantly screened by tree-lined field boundaries, stands of trees and

⁵⁵ Edwards, Y., (2011).

⁵⁶ Edwards, Y., (2011).

intervening buildings. There are also partial, though more open views to the north and east. The asset is considered to be of some aesthetic, historical and architectural interest and its rural, agricultural setting makes a contribution to its value.

Lamb Cottage and Sunnyside (CC106)

- 4.3.88 The semi-detached Lamb Cottage and Sunnyside on Potter Row are depicted on 1st Edition OS mapping (1870s - 80s). A brief visual assessment indicates a white rendered building with a red tiled roof, probably of 19th century origin.
- 4.3.89 The two properties' immediate setting comprises their gardens and outbuildings, along with their location on the quiet, tree-lined Potter Row. They lie on the north-east side of the road and have both partial views to the south and west, predominantly screened by tree-lined field boundaries, stands of trees and intervening buildings. There are also partial, though more open views to the north and east. The asset is considered to be of some aesthetic, historical and architectural interest and its rural, agricultural setting makes a contribution to its value.

Three Bears Cottage (CC107)

- 4.3.90 Three Bears Cottage is depicted on 1st Edition OS mapping (1870s - 80s). It is accessed along a trackway leading off Leather Lane and a brief visual assessment of the building indicates a 19th century origin for the main cottage, which is a flint and brick cottage with a red tiled roof. There is also a larger probably 20th century addition along the whole of the cottage's east facing elevation as well as garaging and gardens.
- 4.3.91 The cottage's immediate setting comprises its gardens, newer extension and outbuilding, set in a rural and quite isolated plot. It has partial views to the north-east, east and south across its tree-lined boundary. Views to the west and south-west are screened by a denser stand of trees associated with the Grim's Ditch scheduled monument (CC008), which forms the property's boundary on that side. The asset is considered to be of some aesthetic, historical and architectural interest and its isolated and peaceful rural setting makes a contribution to its value.

Chiltern's Cottage (CC110)

- 4.3.92 Chiltern's Cottage on Potter Row is depicted on 1st Edition OS mapping (1870s - 80s). Similarly to Beeway Cottage, adjacent on its northern side it probably represents a basic farm labourer's cottage. A brief visual assessment indicates a brick and flint building with a tiled roof of 19th century origin. The cottage has a more recent extension on its northern side, which is pebble-dashed. If contemporary with Beeway Cottage then it is likely to have been built by unskilled workmen and may have no foundations and is now divided into two dwellings⁵⁷.
- 4.3.93 The building's immediate setting comprises its gardens, extensions and outbuildings, set on the quiet, tree-lined Potter Row. It lies on the north-east side of the road and has partial views to the south and west which are predominantly screened by tree-lined field boundaries, stands of trees and intervening buildings. There are also partial views to the north and east. The asset is considered to be of some aesthetic, historical

⁵⁷ Edwards, Y., (2011).

and architectural interest and its rural, agricultural setting makes a contribution to its value.

Frith Hill Farm (CC111)

- 4.3.94 Frith Hill Farm on Frith Hill is depicted on 1st Edition OS mapping (1870s - 80s). A brief visual assessment of the main farmhouse and attached former barn indicates a 19th century origin. The existing building represents a vernacular structure of brick and flint construction with a slate roof. The attached former barn is of weatherboard and probable timber-frame, also with a slate roof. The farm's immediate setting comprises the modern and former farm buildings, yards and gardens within the wider rural, agricultural landscape. It lies on the northern side of Frith Hill and is partially screened from the surrounding landscape by its tree-lined property boundaries to the east and west and by tree-lined field boundaries to the north and east.
- 4.3.95 The existing farm buildings represent a typical Chilterns farmstead established at or post Enclosure. Frith Hill Farm and its more recent outbuildings and gardens remain closely associated to the agricultural surroundings. The asset is considered to be of some aesthetic, historical and architectural interest and its rural, agricultural setting makes a contribution to its value.

4.4 Selected designated built heritage assets within the ZTV

- 4.4.1 The criterion for inclusion within this section is that the Proposed Scheme is assessed in the impact assessment table in CH-003-009 as having a major or moderate adverse effect upon a designated asset which lies within the ZTV, but outside the 500m study area. Descriptions and considerations of the significance of all designated assets within the ZTV can be found in the Gazetteer in CH-002-009.
- 4.4.2 There are no designated heritage assets within the study area which are located within the ZTV, but outside of the 500m study, that are deemed to have a major or moderate adverse effect as a result of the Proposed Scheme.

5 Historic map regression

- 5.1.1 The analysis of the cartographic evidence for the study area has been integrated within the archaeological and historical baseline narrative (Sections 3 and 4 of this report).

6 Historic landscape

6.1 Historic landscape characterisation

- 6.1.1 The settlement pattern within the study area is predominantly one of nucleated villages, possibly established in the early medieval period but certainly by the medieval period, and in the case of Great Missenden and Little Missenden focussed around a parish church, set in a broadly post-medieval agricultural and wooded landscape.
- 6.1.2 About 70% of the Chiltern District lies within the Chilterns AONB. The AONB is based on the chalk escarpment to the north-west of Greater London with the steep "scarp" face overlooking the Vale of Aylesbury to the north-west and the more gently sloping "dip-slope" progressively decreasing in height south-eastwards towards Greater London.
- 6.1.3 The District is wholly on the dip-slope whose characteristic landscape consists of steep-sided mostly dry valleys separated by ridges and plateau areas. Crossing the District from north-west to south-east are three major valley systems, each comprising a main valley together with numerous tributary or side valleys. Of these the Misbourne Valley lies within the study area. The remainder of the study area comprises the eastern valley side and plateau.
- 6.1.4 The historic landscape character within the study area is representative of the Chiltern District as a whole. It displays a mixed character of an essentially "ancient" rural landscape of fields and woodlands which have been strongly influenced and affected by development in the 20th century.
- 6.1.5 The historic settlement pattern is a combination of nucleated and dispersed forms. Dispersed settlement tends to be located on higher ground taking the form of common edge settlements, linear rows such as Hyde Heath, South Heath and Potter Row, and widely distributed farmsteads. Commons are amongst the most characteristic features of the AONB and are part of its social and cultural heritage⁵⁸. The commons, heaths and downlands of the Chilterns have medieval or earlier origins. The commons and heaths originally served as communal grazing land, as well as sources of fuel and building materials⁵⁹. Historic nucleated villages and towns represented in the study area by Little Missenden and Great Missenden are found in the Misbourne Valley⁶⁰.
- 6.1.6 The Chiltern District has an extensive area of co-axial field systems which are likely to be of medieval origin but could have pre-medieval origins and are found mainly north and east of Chesham outside the study area. There are possible examples of these remnant field systems represented within the study area to the north of Hyde Heath and to the east and west of South Heath. There are also co-axial fields to the south of

⁵⁸ Chilterns Conservation Board, (2006), *Chilterns Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty: Management Plan 2008 – 2013*.

⁵⁹ Buckinghamshire County Council, The Chilterns Conservation Board & English Heritage, (2010), *Chilterns Historic Landscape Characterisation Project: The Making of the Chiltern Landscape*.

⁶⁰ Buckinghamshire County Council, (2006), *Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes Historic Landscape Characterisation*. County Archaeological Service.

Little Missenden. The Proposed Scheme will pass the south-western edge of South Heath in a green tunnel through elements of these early field systems.

- 6.1.7 Irregular fields of medieval and post-medieval date are much more extensive in the wider district. The Proposed Scheme will pass through a number of these types of field within the study area where they are also interspersed with elements of regular field systems associated with 18th and 19th century parliamentary enclosure and more modern 20th century enclosure.
- 6.1.8 The Chilterns AONB is one of the most heavily wooded parts of the United Kingdom. It supports the most extensive area of native beech woodland in England and contains many protected woodlands. Woodlands comprise a significant proportion of the historic landscape in the study area and much of this is designated as ancient semi-natural or replanted woodland. Ancient semi-natural woodlands are considered especially significant for, amongst other things, their cultural heritage value, reflecting centuries of interactions between human activities and the environment. There are 24 ancient woodlands within the study area. Of these woodlands three lie within the land required both temporarily and permanently for the construction and operation of the Proposed Scheme; Mantle's Wood (CCo19) an ancient replanted woodland, Farthing's Wood (CCo30) an ancient replanted woodland and Sibley's Coppice (CCo50) an ancient semi-natural woodland.
- 6.1.9 Many of the farmhouses and associated agricultural buildings in the study area are representative of a wider picture of dispersed and isolated farmsteads in the Chilterns as a whole. These were for the most part built between the 17th and 19th centuries but it is generally buildings within the settlements of Little Missenden (CCo14) and Great Missenden (CCo53) and to a far lesser extent Hyde Heath (CCo09) and South Heath (CCo49) that comprise the majority of this period's built heritage.
- 6.1.10 Hyde Farm is focused around a Grade II listed building with medieval origins (CCo36), probably early 16th century, and there are a number of other outlying farmsteads in the study area which are focused around Grade II listed buildings of post-medieval date. These comprise Kennel Farm (CCo03), Hawthorn Farm (CCo25), South Heath Farm (CCo49), Bury Farm (CCo70), Hammondshall Farm (CC-094), Rignall's Farm (CCo84) and Road Farm (CCo88).
- 6.1.11 Nine farmsteads are depicted on 1st Edition 1:2500 OS mapping (1870s - 80s). These comprise Mantle's Farm on the southern edge of Mantle's Wood (CCo18), Hyde Heath Farm on the northern periphery of Hyde Heath (CCo22), Chapel Farm on Hyde Lane which lies partially within the land required both temporarily and permanently for the construction and operation of the Proposed Scheme (CCo42), Friendly Lodge Farm now called The Hyde south of Chesham Road (CCo44), Hillcroft at the southern end of Potter Row (CCo75), Park Farm in Potter Row (CCo78), Springfield Farm at the northern end of Potter Row (CCo79), Havenfields Lodge now called Havenfields north of Great Missenden (CCo82) and Frith Hill Farm on Frith Hill (CC111).
- 6.1.12 Overall the historic landscape character within the study area comprises pockets of surviving remnant medieval, perhaps pre-medieval, co-axial field systems intermixed in a more widespread landscape of Parliamentary and modern enclosure. This is set around a quite well-preserved mosaic of ancient semi-natural and replanted

woodlands which in those designated cases may have at least medieval origins and surviving elements of former formal private gardens and landscape parks such as Missenden Abbey RPG (see below) and the northernmost parts of Shardeloes (discussed as part of CFA 08).

Great Missenden's remnant medieval agricultural hinterland (CCo32)

- 6.1.13 Throughout the study area there is a low level distribution of fields which show evidence of ploughed out ridge and furrow, probably of medieval origin. The majority of these were removed over subsequent centuries of agriculture. In several areas, however, there are slightly more evident fields where very degraded earthwork remains of ridge and furrow survive. These were identified during an aerial photographic and LiDAR survey (Volume 5: Appendix CH-004-009). These can be considered to represent a faintly surviving component of the study area's historic landscape and are probably associated with prevailing medieval practices to the west at Great Missenden (CCo53) and perhaps at the former moated site in Chalkdell Woods (CCo54) on the north-east edge of Great Missenden. In addition, these fields are also likely to have been part of the agricultural hinterland of former medieval moated sites at Redding Wick (CCo65) to the east and at Bury Farm (CCo66). A possible former medieval farmstead at Cudsden's Farm, indicated by quite extensive finds of 13th to 14th century pottery in surrounding fields (CCo35), is also likely to have exploited this landscape in the medieval period.
- 6.1.14 The Buckinghamshire County Historic Landscape Characterisation project does not identify these areas of ridge and furrow specifically⁶¹. These examples lie within larger, mixed historic landscape types comprising in part pre-18th century irregular and pre-18th century regular enclosure and co-axial enclosure. These are probably of medieval origin but where they do overlie elements of ridge and furrow they were probably created between the 14th and 17th centuries. The possible example of co-axial enclosure on the south side of Havenfield Wood ancient woodland (CCo81) is also likely to be of medieval origin though could possibly predate it and have a prehistoric origin.
- 6.1.15 This landscape component has only limited historical coherence and legibility but does add value to Great Missenden (CCo53), moated sites in Chalkdell Woods, at Redding Wick (CCo65) and at Bury Farm (CCo66) and the possible former farmstead at Cudsden's Farm (CCo35). It contributes to our understanding of how settlement developed in this area and how the agricultural hinterland was managed during the medieval period and into the post-medieval period.

6.2 Historic parks and gardens

- 6.2.1 Historic parks and gardens, either designated or non-designated which lie wholly or partially within land required both temporarily and permanently for the construction and operation of the Proposed Scheme, or within 500m of the edge of this land, are discussed in this section. They are also listed in the Gazetteer in Volume 5: Appendix CH-002-009. Registered parks and gardens which lie within the ZTV, but outside the

⁶¹ Buckinghamshire County Council, (2006).

500m study area, are also included in this section if the Proposed Scheme is assessed in the impact assessment table in CH-003-009 as having a major or moderate adverse effect upon them. Descriptions and considerations of the significance of all designated historic parks and gardens within the ZTV can be found in the Gazetteer in Volume 5: Appendix CH-002-009. The assets are shown on CH-01-029, CH-01-029-L1, CH-01-030, CH-01-030-L1 and CH-02-014 (Volume 5, Cultural Heritage Map Book).

- 6.2.2 The 18th and 19th centuries marked the zenith of parks and gardens in the Chilterns and the district contains some fine examples of this period⁶². Parks and gardens cover about 4% of the Chilterns AONB landscape and were established over the last 300 years by the wealthiest landowners as an aesthetic expression of power and wealth. Many parks and gardens have earlier antecedents but were substantially redesigned or expanded during this period as fashion and tastes changed. Missenden Abbey, a Grade II RPG is one example (CCo51). The other example, a tiny fraction of which lies within the study area at the southern edge is Shardeloes which is discussed as part of The Chalfont and Amersham study area (CFA8).

Missenden Abbey (CCo51)

- 6.2.3 Missenden Abbey has its origins in the medieval period although there is no evidence that the parkland or other designed elements of gardens have any medieval precedent. The monastic foundation was dissolved in 1538 and the monastery itself leased to Richard Greneway, a gentleman usher of the Household, in 1541 (see above).
- 6.2.4 Missenden Abbey lies at the head of Misbourne Valley in the heart of the Chiltern Hills. The circa 40 ha park consists of parkland in the river valley, falling slightly to the south and rising up the rolling hillside to the east to the edge of Wendover Woods. The site is bounded on the west by the old London Road from Amersham to Great Missenden, to the north by the village buildings, Church Lane, the churchyard and Frith Hill Road, and to the east by Wendover Woods. The west boundary of the site is partly defined by a 19th century Grade II listed flint wall with brick piers, beginning at the north-west corner of the site and continuing south for about 300m along the London Road. It may originally have run as far as the track which leads to the ford over the River Misbourne but if so has disappeared for a 100m stretch. It is a retaining structure along part of its length supporting the raised walk along the west of the garden to the park.
- 6.2.5 The setting is mainly agricultural with Great Missenden adjacent to the north. In 1960 the Missenden bypass was constructed through the middle of the park with only a road bridge linking the house and the western side of the park with the eastern side and the parish church. The bypass cuts the whole park in two and is a great intrusion into the site, both visually and physically. Despite this the generally rural, agricultural setting retains a strong sense of peace and quiet and contributes to its value.
- 6.2.6 The main approach to the house is directly off the old London Road to the west of the house. The entrance from the road is modest with 2m high Grade II listed 19th century gate piers and modern gates. The short drive emerges from a cover of mature yews and other evergreens to arrive at a turning circle by the west front of the house. A long

⁶² Buckinghamshire County Council, The Chilterns Conservation Board & English Heritage, (2010).

drive is shown on the 1883 1:2500 1st Edition OS map entering at the south end of the park, running roughly parallel to the River Misbourne. This drive ran up to the south front of the house and crossed the still extant rustic bridge over the Misbourne in the garden. The drive within the garden is still visible, but that within the park is not.

- 6.2.7 Missenden Abbey lies in the north-west corner of the site. Parts of the medieval abbey buildings were incorporated into the house circa 1600, and it is believed that the house is on the site of the abbey cloister. The 17th century house, a gabled, two storey manor house with dormers, was substantially altered in the late 18th century (to a Venetian style) by James Oldham and in the early 19th century when it was "Gothicised" by John Ayton. It remained largely unaltered until the interior was destroyed by fire in 1985 and only the external walls were saved. It was rebuilt between 1985-88 by Paul Markcrow so that externally it appears little altered. The major view from the house is south along the park and valley, the view funnelled south by the tree-belt to the west and woods to the east. Immediately north of the house and partly enclosing the old (possibly monastic) pond is a curved modern brick accommodation block.
- 6.2.8 The gardens lie close the house to the west, south and east. The house is set on level lawn. The ground north of the drive is now mainly car parks with some of the mature tree cover retained. The major garden feature lies east of the house. The River Misbourne running south from where it rises in the village has been culverted beneath the north-eastern walled garden. The river emerges beneath a restored Grade II listed flint and brick three-arched Gothic summerhouse (circa 1800) through a Grade II listed flint arched bridge (circa 1800) to meander down to another flint bridge, also Grade II listed (circa 1800), which carried the drive from the park to the south front of the house. The river seldom flows and the river bed is dry. South of the garden the river widens into the lake known as Warren Water, also dried up. The garden south of the house is lawn, separated from the park to the south and east by a modern post and rail fence, effectively incorporating part of the park. On the lawn stands a Grade II listed sundial inscribed with the date 1814 and the name and arms of John Ayton. Some 50m south of the house a partly restored flint and brick ha-ha marks the 19th century division between house and park. Two 'causeways' divide the ha-ha into three sections. The western end has gradually been filled in and only the top brick courses are visible.
- 6.2.9 West and south-west of the house is a raised walk and shelter belt about 1.5m above ground level. The planting forms a shelter belt above the park wall. The 250m long walk runs south into the park and at its southern end provides views back to the house. It is planted with mature evergreen shrubs including yew, holly, Portuguese laurel and box. A line of mature limes runs along the walk's east edge where it drops down to the lawn. At the north end, south of the drive, is a shrubbery with mature trees and evergreens.
- 6.2.10 The park is used for pasture which retains scattered mature park trees including lime, oak, chestnut and sycamore. The main feature of the park is Warren Water, which lies in the western half, with an island in it. The river runs along the western side of the park flowing into Warren Water at its north end and leaves it at the south, running under a restored 19th century iron bridge to continue the length of the park to enter

Bank's Pond. This pond may be medieval in origin and is dammed. The park now tapers out south of this Bank's Pond although the 1900 1:2500 2nd Edition OS map shows that it continued on what is now arable land east of the bypass as far as Deepmill Farm. The eastern half of the park, east of the bypass, is of similar character to the western half. It covers undulating hillside to the top of the hill past the Grade I listed medieval church of St. Peter and St. Paul which is prominent on the boundary. This part of the park has good views of the western half of the park in the valley, and across to the eastern hillside in the distance. The church and park would have had views of the house although these are now obscured by modern, coniferous planting, screening the by-pass from the house. There may have been views of this part of the park and the church from the Gothic summerhouse in the garden. The east park has a view west across the site to woodland on the ridge to the west, outside the site.

- 6.2.11 Wendover Woods beyond the park boundary provides shelter for the park from winds coming from the eastern plateau, visually defining much of the east park boundary. It is not known exactly when the Abbey grounds were landscaped but the Fleetwoods probably moved out of the property in 1774 and it was sold in 1787. The sale particulars refer to the "pleasure grounds" which together with some of the woods and farmland "might be made into a Park, which would have the advantage of there being no road across, and of being watered by a Trout Stream, running near a Mile through the West side of it". This indicates that landscaping had yet to be carried out, and that it was begun after the sale of the estate towards the end of the 18th century.
- 6.2.12 The asset group comprising Missenden Abbey RPG, the Grade I Church of St Peter and Paul and nine associated Grade II listed buildings is set within the Missenden Abbey Conservation Area an extension designated in 1992 to the existing Great Missenden Conservation Area, the latter defining the historic core of the settlement. The Abbey landscape retains its peaceful, rural setting and the sense of a historical agricultural park which contributes to the value of the assets within the group and the group as a whole.

Other non-designated parks and gardens

- 6.2.13 One non-designated designed garden and parkland is associated with Hyde House (CCo26). This comprises an early 18th century main house with 19th century additions, along with a probable 18th century granary dovecote. Both are Grade II listed buildings. Another 19th century example is associated with Missenden House in Little Missenden (CCo14).

6.3 Historically important hedgerows

- 6.3.1 Eight hedgerows within the study area are considered to be historically important under the Hedgerow Regulations 1997 Criteria for Archaeology and History⁶³. Of these seven lie within or partially within the land required both temporarily and permanently for the construction and operation of the Proposed Scheme.

⁶³ Hedgerow Regulations, (1997), Statutory Instrument 1997 No. 1160.

- 6.3.2 Two of these hedgerows (CCo20, CCo21) follow part of the Great Missenden parish boundary just north-east of Mantle's Wood (CCo19) and along the north-west edge of Farthing's Wood (CCo30) respectively.
- 6.3.3 Three more hedgerows (CCo67 to CCo69) are physically associated with recorded heritage assets to the west of Bury Farm in Potter Row.
- 6.3.4 Two more hedgerows (CCo71, CCo72) are physically associated with recorded heritage assets on the west and north sides respectively of Jenkin's Wood.

7 Archaeological character

7.1 Introduction

- 7.1.1 To determine the archaeological potential for the study area, it was sub-divided into archaeological character areas. These archaeological character areas are derived from a consideration of the current topography, geology and current land use of the area. From these factors the potential for recovery of archaeological remains are considered.
- 7.1.2 From these broad character areas, the landscape was further subdivided into archaeological sub-zones (ASZ) which have allowed for a more in-depth understanding of the archaeological potential of the study area. The study area for this CFA has been sub-divided into 17 ASZ.
- 7.1.3 Although initially defined and characterised by current land use, a number of additional factors have determined the potential of these sub-zones to contain archaeological remains of significance. These factors include topography, geology, historic character and distribution of known archaeological finds, sites and assets.

7.2 Character areas

- 7.2.1 A single archaeological character area has been defined.

Archaeological Character Area 1 Misbourne Valley

- 7.2.2 The whole study area comprises chalk geology with some colluvial (Head) deposits in dry valleys and extensive Clay-with-Flints strata on the upper eastern valley shoulder and the plateau. There are Holocene alluvial deposits in the valley floor associated with the River Misbourne. The landscape drains to the east and south into the River Misbourne which meets the River Colne, flowing then onwards to the Thames.
- 7.2.3 The area is defined by relatively dispersed settlement made up of isolated farmsteads and hamlets within areas of pre 18th century enclosure, some co-axial field systems and areas of common and quite extensive woodland on the valley shoulder and plateau. Some enclosures may be remnant medieval assarts. The two larger settlements of Little Missenden and Great Missenden are clustered within the Misbourne Valley on a major historic routeway. Many existing lanes in area may have historic or even prehistoric origins. A prehistoric origin is also possible for some of co-axial enclosures. The Chilterns landscape character has been well analysed and discussed in detail by Buckinghamshire County Council and the Chilterns Conservation Board^{64,65}.
- 7.2.4 The Proposed Scheme would follow the upper slope on the east side of valley. This is a south-west facing slope and prehistoric to early medieval archaeology is likely to be encountered on it in this section. The significant Iron Age earthwork of Grim's Ditch

⁶⁴ Buckinghamshire County Council, The Chilterns Conservation Board & English Heritage, (2010).

⁶⁵ Buckinghamshire County Council, (2006).

survives in sections as an earthwork at the northern extreme of the study area, discussed as part of the Dunsmore, Wendover and Halton community forum area; (CFA10). A number of medieval moated sites and motte and bailey castles also survive as earthworks throughout the study area.

- 7.2.5 Results from historical analysis of aerial photography have demonstrated numerous ploughed out fields of former ridge and furrow as well as several fields where very degraded earthwork remains also survive (CCo32). There is also evidence of the remains of medieval and post-medieval field boundaries and numerous areas of probably post-medieval quarrying (Volume 5: Appendix CH-004-009). In addition very little formal intrusive archaeological investigations have been undertaken, though quite extensive areas have been subject to fieldwalking and occasional metal detector surveys and demonstrate character and potential.
- 7.2.6 Palaeolithic through to Mesolithic potential is recognised from areas with colluvial (Head) deposits and on the Clay-with-Flints strata, though this is likely to be represented by stray finds. Later prehistoric to medieval remains are likely to be concentrated within the valley and on the upper slopes (especially on the eastern and north-eastern side of the valley). Within the wider region Romano-British villa estates and potentially associated industries may survive every 2-3 km. Elsewhere Romano-British villas have been recognised at Little Missenden and to the south of the study area at Mantles Green and at Shardeloes. There is significant evidence of a potentially extensive medieval and post-medieval pottery / tile industry at Potter Row (South Heath). Medieval moated sites and former motte and bailey castles probably dominated the Misbourne Valley routeway at Frith Hill, south of Mantle's Wood, South Heath and the Missendens. The significant monastic site at Missenden Abbey also would have been a dominant landholder during much of the medieval period.

7.3 Archaeological sub-zones

- 7.3.1 The archaeological sub-zones are presented in the table below from south to north. An indication of archaeological potential for each sub-zone provided.

Table 1: Archaeological sub-zones

No	Name	Topography	Geology/soils	Modern land use	Historic character	Archaeology
1	Keeper's Wood. Designated as Weedonhill / High Spring / Ostler's Wood ancient woodland	Situated on the valley shoulder sloping gently down towards the valley floor	Clay-with-Flints strata overlying chalk	Managed woodland. The Chilterns Railway line passes through it towards the southern edge	Ancient and semi-natural woodland	Possible early 20th century firing ranges 300m from Jays Hatch. With this exception no artefacts or features have previously been recorded within the ASZ. Other ancient woodlands are known to retain earthwork and buried remains of activities associated with woodland management and occupation through the medieval and post-medieval periods.
2	Land around Lime Farm and Kennel Farm and passing between Keeper's Wood and Bray's Wood	Situated on the valley shoulder, slightly undulating and sloping gently down into the valley floor	Clay-with-Flints strata overlying chalk. Holocene alluvium in the base of the valley	Agriculture, mainly arable, some pasture and grazing. The A413 bypass passes through it along with the Chiltern Railway line. The Misbourne flows at the base of the valley north of Little Missenden	A mix of post-medieval enclosure and meadow. Some pre 18th century irregular enclosure between Keeper's Wood and Bray's Wood	Map evidence of former extraction pit and documentary and artefactual evidence of former buildings associated with Lime Farm and Kennel Farm. These include re-used medieval stonework; 19th century map evidence of former watercress beds and metal detector find of a 17th century token, a harness mount and an undefined Bronze Age copper alloy object.
3	Bray's Wood	Situated on the valley shoulder, slightly undulating and sloping gently down into the valley floor. Bounded by Keeper's Lane on its east side	Clay-with-Flints strata overlying chalk	Managed woodland	A mix of ancient and semi-natural and ancient replanted woodland	Bray's Wood medieval settlement known as Bray Green. Medieval farmstead with enclosing bank and house platforms, several unstratified ceramic and iron artefacts also recovered. An earthwork survey was undertaken in 1997.
4	Hyde Heath	Situated on the plateau at the top of the Misbourne Valley. Bray's Wood to the south and other woodlands both designated and not to the north and north-west	Clay-with-Flints strata overlying chalk	A village originally focussed on the common in the north-west of the modern settlement	Common edge settlement predominantly post-1850s though origins are likely to be pre 18th century	The settlement may have been associated with the former medieval settlement of Bray Green.

5	Little Missenden	Situated in the base of the Misbourne Valley on the former London Road	Clay-with-Flints strata overlying chalk	A village settled at least from the medieval period. A conservation area with medieval and predominantly post-medieval buildings	A village settlement of nucleated streets and rows	Just outside the study area at Town Farm there are the remains of a possible Romano-British villa. There is also a record of an unstratified, Late Saxon stirrup mount found by metal detector in either Little Missenden or Amersham. Mill End is also the location of a former water mill, corn mill and steam mill with its origins in the 14th century.
6	Land to the south of Hyde Heath and around Mantle's Farm and Spindle's Farm	Situated on the valley shoulder, slightly undulating and sloping gently down into the valley floor	Clay-with-Flints strata overlying chalk. Holocene alluvium in the base of the valley	Agriculture, mainly arable, some pasture. The A413 bypass passes through it along with the Chiltern Railway line. The Misbourne flows at the base of the valley north of Little Missenden	A mix of pre 18th century enclosure and 19th century enclosure. Also 20th century prairie fields, formerly pre 18th century enclosure	The Castle Tower, a former motte and bailey scheduled monument is located just east of Mantle's Farm. Possible furrows in the field may be associated though they are very poorly defined and any relationship is unclear. Historic record of medieval Mantell's Manor, the reputed manor held in 1086 by Turstin Mantel. The existing farm, which is depicted on 1st Edition OS mapping (1870s - 80s) may also incorporate the remains of a former medieval manor.
7	Mantle's Wood	Situated on the plateau and gently sloping down the valley side towards the valley floor	Clay-with-Flints strata overlying chalk	Managed woodland. The Chilterns Main Line runs along its southern edge	A mix of ancient and semi-natural and ancient replanted woodland	Within the woodland a boundary bank was recorded along the east side of the wood and quarry pits during woodland survey. Earthwork remains and associated potential buried archaeological remains of possible medieval date associated with Mantell's manor. A geophysical survey undertaken in 2013 to the south of the woodland revealed indications of potential in-filled pits.

8	Land between Hedgemoor Wood and Chesham Road and east of Hyde Farm	Situated on the plateau and gently sloping down the valley side towards the valley floor	Clay-with-Flints strata overlying chalk. Colluvial (Head) deposits lie in the dry valley between Mantle's Wood and Farthing's Wood	Agriculture, mainly arable, some pasture	Some pre 18th century irregular enclosure as well as post 19th century enclosure. Some reclaimed from former woodland associated with Mantle's Wood / Farthing's Wood. Also Parliamentary enclosure in the north reclaimed from commons and heaths	Prehistoric remains recovered during fieldwalking surveys and medieval to post-medieval finds recovered during fieldwalking and metal detector surveys. There is a likelihood of further quite extensive scatters of prehistoric flint artefacts, probably unstratified and of ceramic or metal artefacts of predominantly medieval and post-medieval date.
9	Farthing's Wood	Situated on quite steeply sloping side on the eastern edge of Hedgemoor Wood	Clay-with-Flints strata in its northern half overlying chalk	Managed woodland	Ancient replanted woodland	No artefacts or features have previously been recorded within the ASZ. Other ancient woodlands are known to retain earthwork and buried remains of activities associated with woodland management and occupation through the medieval and post-medieval periods.
10	Land west of Hyde Farm, south of Chesham Road and Cudsden's Farm and east of Wendover Woods	Situated on the valley shoulder, slightly undulating and sloping gently down to the edge of the valley floor	Clay-with-Flints strata overlying chalk	Agriculture, mainly arable, some pasture	Post 19th century enclosure on the valley slope and 20th century prairie fields. Formerly pre 18th century enclosure	Prehistoric remains recovered during fieldwalking surveys and medieval to post-medieval finds recovered during fieldwalking and metal detector surveys. There is a likelihood of further quite extensive scatters of prehistoric flint artefacts, probably unstratified, and of ceramic or metal artefacts of predominantly medieval and post-medieval date. Medieval ceramic finds are thought to indicate the possible site of a former medieval settlement close to Cudsden's Farm.
11	Land south of Frith Hill, west of Sibley's Coppice and north of Chesham Road around Middle Grove Farm	Situated on the valley shoulder, slightly undulating and sloping gently down towards the valley floor	Clay-with-Flints strata overlying chalk	Agriculture, mainly arable, some pasture	Some co-axial fields to south of Redding Wick and former coaxial fields, now 20th century prairie fields. Also 19th century enclosure, some formerly commons and greens	Neolithic to Bronze Age flints found during fieldwalking survey 350m north-west of Cudsden's Farm, between Chesham Road and Frith Hill. Former brickworks and extractive pits to north near Middle Grove Farm.

12	Sibley's Coppice	Situated on the valley shoulder, slightly undulating and sloping gently down towards the valley floor	Clay-with-Flints strata overlying chalk	Managed woodland	Ancient and semi-natural woodland	No artefacts or features have previously been recorded within the ASZ. Other ancient woodlands are known to retain earthwork and buried remains of activities associated with woodland management and occupation through the medieval and post-medieval periods.
13	South Heath	Situated on the valley shoulder on undulating ground and sloping gently down towards the valley	Clay-with-Flints strata overlying chalk	Predominantly a post 1885 village of modern housing. Includes the former farmstead associated with South Heath farmhouse. Previously Parliamentary enclosure fields	A village settlement of nucleated clusters	Much of any potential below ground archaeological remains would have been removed during development. There is, however, a greater potential in yards and gardens for the survival of buried remains.
14	Redding Wick woodland and moated site	Situated on the valley shoulder near the plateau on undulating ground and sloping gently down towards the valley	Clay-with-Flints strata overlying chalk	Managed woodland and scheduled monument, comprising extensive earthwork and buried remains of a former medieval moated site	Ancient and semi-natural woodland	Complex homestead moat with ramparts and outworks within Redding Wick Wood which is designated as ancient woodland. The site, especially the centre, is strongly defended. Pottery recovered dates to 13th century. Likely to be further below ground archaeological remains associated with the extensive earthworks. These may extend away from the scheduled area.
15	Stocking's Wood	Situated on the valley shoulder on quite steeply sloping ground close to the valley bottom	Clay-with-Flints in south-eastern corner; the remainder is chalk	Managed woodland	Ancient and semi-natural woodland. There is also 19th century map evidence of three former chalk pits	No artefacts or features have previously been recorded within the ASZ. Other ancient woodlands are known to retain earthwork and buried remains of activities associated with woodland management and occupation through the medieval and post-medieval periods.

16	Potter Row	Situated on the valley shoulder on undulating ground and sloping gently down towards the valley	Clay-with-Flints strata with the exception of the western extreme in the lower valley slope; overlying chalk	Agriculture, mainly arable, some pasture. Managed woodland	Some coaxial fields near Springfields Farm and west of Park Farm. Pre 18th century enclosure, 19th century enclosure and 20th century enclosure. Some parkland around Havenfields. Includes Jenkin's Wood and Havenfields Wood ancient woodlands	Potter Row, between Frith Hill and Hammondshall Farm is identified by Buckinghamshire County Council as an archaeological notification area on the basis of a variety of finds which could indicate the existence of a former extensive area of 13th to 15th century pottery production and settlement. The possible location of a 16th to 17th century kiln site indicated by numerous finds of pottery has also been recorded in the gardens of the surrounding area. There is a strong potential for further in situ and unstratified ceramic and metal artefacts and associated below ground features. The Iron Age Grim's Ditch scheduled monument lies at the northern end of the study area and associated below ground remains may exist within this ASZ.
17	Woodlands Park	Situated on the valley shoulder on quite steeply sloping ground close to the valley bottom	Chalk bedrock and Holocene alluvial deposits in the valley bottom	Agriculture, mainly arable, some pasture	Parkland formerly associated with Woodlands Park, an early 19th century Italianate Villa. The north-eastern end is also associated with the extant Iron Age earthwork of Grim's Ditch	The Iron Age Grim's Ditch scheduled monument lies at the northern end of the study area and elements associated with the earthwork and associated below ground remains may exist within this ASZ.

8 Analysis and research potential

8.1 Analysis of understanding

- 8.1.1 An assessment of aerial photographs of the study area has been undertaken and the results incorporated in this assessment (Volume 5: Appendix CH-004-009). The assessment identified numerous examples of ploughed out former ridge and furrow throughout the study area as well as fewer examples of partially surviving ridge and furrow earthworks. These are likely to be of medieval origin. In addition, the assessment identified former field boundary earthworks of probably medieval and post-medieval date and numerous examples of former extraction pits and quarrying, probably of post-medieval origin (Volume 5: Appendix CH-004-009).
- 8.1.2 Geophysical survey has been undertaken near Mantle's Farm (CC018) and the results suggest no indication of below ground archaeological remains. In all three discrete positive responses were noted which may indicate the presence of in-filled pits of archaeological origin or possibly features of natural origin (Volume 5: Appendix CH-004-009).
- 8.1.3 Waterways within the study area are limited in scale, with no recorded terraces of gravels, and only a restricted area of alluvium of Holocene date along the base of the Misbourne Valley. Alluvial deposits have the potential to mask archaeological remains and may also have the potential to preserve palaeoenvironmental remains in waterlogged conditions. None of the archaeological sub-zones (ASZ) within the study area are located close to the River Misbourne or these alluvial deposits. The geology of all of the subzones is chalk with overlying Clay-with-Flints strata in many areas on the north-eastern valley slope and plateau. There are very restricted colluvial (Head) deposits in dry valleys, notably between Mantle's Wood and Farthing's Wood. These colluvial deposits have the potential to mask archaeological remains.
- 8.1.4 Land-use is overwhelmingly agricultural, predominantly arable though with areas of pasture and these make up the largest group of ASZ (2, 6, 8, 10, 11, 16, 17). Areas of ridge and furrow earthworks albeit fragmentary and degraded survive in a number of these areas of pasture (Volume 5: Appendix CH-004-009) and can mask detection of earlier cut and in-filled features. There are extensive tracts of ancient woodland, each ascribed as an ASZ and three of these are located within the land required both temporarily and permanently for the construction and operation of the Proposed Scheme; Mantle's Wood (ASZ7), Farthing's Wood (ASZ9) and Sibley's Coppice (ASZ12). These areas of ancient woodland have the potential to mask surviving below ground archaeological remains and also earthwork remains, notably from aerial photographic assessment.
- 8.1.5 The study area as a whole is relatively undisturbed by modern impacts, with the exception of modern agricultural practices. The focus of settlement lies at Little Missenden (ASZ5) and Great Missenden, which lies outside the 500m study area. There has been 20th century development at the villages of Hyde Heath (ASZ4) and South Heath (ASZ13) but on no great scale and these are fairly nucleated, compact settlements. The Aylesbury to Chorleywood Railway (now the Marylebone to

Aylesbury Line) passes through the study area broadly from south to north close to the valley bottom and also broadly parallel to the main A413. There is quite extensive cartographic and landscape evidence of small-scale chalk and clay extraction throughout the study area.

- 8.1.6 Evidence for the prehistoric period as a whole within the study area is limited, though not in particular contrast with elsewhere in the county. A lack of development and associated archaeological investigation along with the geological and topographical conditions within the study area are no doubt contributory factors to this lack of recorded activity.
- 8.1.7 The Clay-with-Flints and chalk geology on the Misbourne Valley's eastern slope and the plateau is not likely to be a source of in situ Palaeolithic remains, or in any quantity, of re-worked and redeposited remains. Mesolithic, Neolithic and earlier Bronze Age activity is evident on the Clay-with-Flints strata along the eastern slope and the plateau and is most likely to be evident in ASZ 8, 10 and 11. These are large areas of agricultural land which are unlikely to have been significantly disturbed over time with the exception of modern deep ploughing. ASZ 16 (Potter Row), between Frith Hill and Leather Lane, includes Bury Farm (CCo66) at which ceramic artefacts dating either to the Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age have been recovered. These are rare finds, the only examples within the study area.
- 8.1.8 At the northern end of the study area the Proposed Scheme will lie adjacent to the scheduled monument of Grim's Ditch. This Iron Age earthwork and associated buried remains may extend into ASZs 16 and 17), though the latter lies just outside the land required both temporarily and permanently for the construction and operation of the Proposed Scheme.
- 8.1.9 There is no evidence to date within the study area of palaeo-environmental remains and given the lack of watercourses within the land required both temporarily and permanently for the construction and operation of the Proposed Scheme there is a negligible potential for the in situ survival of such remains. The colluvial (Head) deposits in the dry valley to the west of Mantle's Wood in ASZ 8 are located within the land required both temporarily and permanently for the construction and operation of the Proposed Scheme and have the potential to mask both archaeological remains and palaeoenvironmental deposits.
- 8.1.10 There is considered to be limited potential for currently unrecorded Romano-British remains in the study area, though the limits of our present understanding may in part be the product of limited development. Those that survive are likely to be unstratified ceramic remains and metalwork in the plough soils. There may also be a more limited potential for below ground remains of field boundaries or stock management enclosures and paddocks.
- 8.1.11 Medieval evidence is more prevalent throughout the study area and includes a number of moated sites, motte and bailey castles, other earthworks and unstratified artefacts. Within the three ancient woodlands that lie within the land required both temporarily and permanently for the construction and operation of the Proposed Scheme there is evidence at one, Mantle's Wood (ASZ 7), of an earthwork boundary

bank and quarry pits. There is also a potential for associated buried archaeological remains. These may be associated with medieval settlement. There is a similar potential within Farthing's Wood (ASZ 9) and Sibley's Coppice (ASZ 12) for the survival of similar medieval remains.

- 8.1.12 Outside the land required both temporarily and permanently for the construction and operation of the Proposed Scheme such evidence is recorded at Bray's Wood (ASZ 3) and particularly at Redding Wick (ASZ 14) where the remains of a medieval homestead moated site are designated a scheduled monument. Archaeological remains of similar date may also survive at Stocking's Wood (ASZ 15) and at Keeper's Wood (ASZ 1). This last is located within the land required both temporarily and permanently for the construction and operation of the Proposed Scheme though the Scheme will be in bored tunnel so will not affect potential archaeological remains within the woodland.
- 8.1.13 The Scheme will be in bored tunnel between Chalk Lane and Mantle's Wood (ASZ 6) where the remains of a scheduled monument motte and bailey at Castle Tower survive. The Proposed Scheme will not affect these known or potential archaeological remains. Potter Row (ASZ 16) has been identified as a potential focus of both medieval and post-medieval pottery production. Significant assemblages of both 13th to 15th century and 16th to 17th century pottery have been found quite extensively in this area.
- 8.1.14 Outside the land required both temporarily and permanently for the construction and operation of the Proposed Scheme Little Missenden (ASZ 5) is of medieval origin, perhaps of early medieval origin whilst the only other settlements within the study area Hyde Heath (ASZ 4) and South Heath (ASZ 13) are of post-medieval and modern date.
- 8.1.15 The highest potential for surviving buried archaeological remains and possible earthwork remains exists in three areas. These comprise earthwork and potential buried remains associated with medieval settlement and woodland management at Mantle's Wood (ASZ 7), land to the south of Cudsden's Farm (ASZ 10) where the buried remains of a former medieval rural settlement may survive; and at land on the west side of Bury Farm and Jenkin's Wood. Here further buried remains of medieval activity associated with a former moated site, field boundaries and a fishpond may survive along with medieval and post-medieval pottery assemblages thought to indicate the possible location of kilns and pottery production at Potter Row (ASZ 16). Surface finds arising from fieldwalking and metal detector surveys also suggest a moderate potential within ASZ 11, though surviving buried archaeological remains are less likely.

8.2 Research potential and priorities

- 8.2.1 Many research questions can best be formulated at either a scheme-wide or at a county/multiple community forum area level. These will draw heavily on the regional

and period research frameworks, which have been prepared with support from English Heritage⁶⁶.

- 8.2.2 This section presents research questions which are specific to the heritage assets, either known or suspected, within the Central Chilterns community forum area.

Research Questions

- 8.2.3 The research potential and priorities are considered on a chronological basis.

Early prehistory

- What is the nature of the preservation of early prehistoric lithic remains on the Clay-with-Flints strata on the Misbourne Valley's eastern slope and the plateau and are there in situ or redeposited remains?
- What is the nature of and reasons for deposition of flint tool and flake scatters between the Mesolithic and the Bronze Age on the Clay-with-Flints strata on the Misbourne Valley's eastern slope and the plateau?
- Is the lack of evidence of below ground remains associated with unstratified surface discoveries a result of limited archaeological works or limited activity on the Clay-with-Flints strata and lack of watercourses?

Later prehistory

- Is the evidence of Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age activity at Bury Farm (CCo66) indicative of more widespread settlement activity in the period?

Romano-British

- What is the pattern of rural settlement in the Roman period and is there a potential for dispersed rural farmsteads on the higher ground on the Chiltern dip-slope and plateau, away from the valley floor?

Early medieval

- Is there any evidence within the land required both temporarily and permanently for the construction and operation of the Proposed Scheme of agricultural settlement with early medieval origins?
- Is there any likelihood of the preservation of early medieval dispersed agricultural farmsteads on the higher slopes of the valley and plateau?

Medieval

- Can the ancient woodlands of Mantle's Wood (CCo19), Farthing's Wood (CCo30) and Sibley's Coppice (CCo50) shed light on medieval woodland management, industry and settlement?
- To what extent can we substantiate the history of these woodlands and contribute to a wider understanding of their antiquity?

⁶⁶ Oxford Archaeology, (2009-2010), *The Solent-Thames Research Framework Resource Assessment*.

- Are there any medieval agricultural and settlement features associated with Jenkin's Wood (CCo73) and Bury Farm (CCo66) which can shed light on the nature of the moated sites within the woodland and at Bury Farm?
- The presumed pottery workshop and possible kiln site at Potter Row (CCo77) is thought to extend through much of the northern half of the study area. Can we understand the nature and extent of the ceramic industrial tradition at Potter Row in both the medieval and post-medieval period? Can we definitively demonstrate such an industry was present at all?

Post-medieval

- What is the date and scale of widespread woodland clearance in the region and how has this influenced the changing soil resources and hydrology of both upland and lowland areas and the dates at which alluvium and colluvium became established?
- What is the inter-relationship between arable, pastureland, woodland and waste in the post-medieval period following enclosure? What is the relationship between this and the creation of dispersed farmsteads as communal land becomes parcelled out privately? Can a better understanding of the age of the local hedgerows and field boundaries be established?

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